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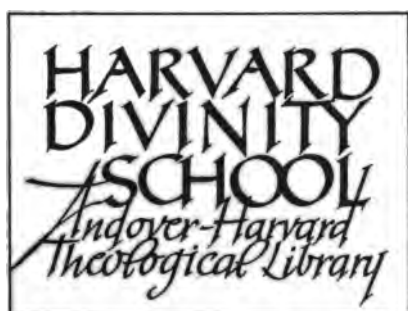
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THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

Edinburgh : Printed by Thomas and Archibald Constable

FOR

DAVID DOUGLAS.

LONDON HAMILTON, ADAMS, AND CO.

CAMBRIDGE MACMILLAN AND BOWES.

GLASGOW JAMES MACLEHOSE AND SONS.

THE
BOOK OF PSALMS

IN METRE

ACCORDING TO

THE VERSION APPROVED BY

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

REVISED BY

DAVID M'LAREN

MINISTER OF HUMBIE

EDINBURGH: DAVID DOUGLAS

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PREFACE.

THIS is a revised edition of the Authorised Scottish Version of the Hebrew Psalms. That version has been adopted not only because of its dear and venerable associations, but on the ground of its intrinsic value. Sir Walter Scott did it not more, but rather less, than justice when he declared that Rouse's Version, "though homely, was plain, forcible, and intelligible, and very often possessed a rude sort of majesty which would be ill exchanged for mere elegance." Dr. Cunningham, who admits and by no means extenuates its faults, pronounces a more emphatic judgment, which will be generally sustained, when he says that it is "so terse, so true to the original, and so natural, as to be upon the whole the best poetical translation of the Psalms of which the English literature can boast."¹

But it has very grave and glaring defects. The finest parts of it are so fine that one wonders how other portions came to be so uncouth, and frequently so poor. An attempt is here made to remove from a noble version some of its greatest blemishes, without interfering with its majesty, or straining too much after

¹ *Church History of Scotland*, ii. 61, 429 (Second Edition).

mere elegance, and so to make it more worthy of its great original, and of its place in English literature.

More, however, is endeavoured in the present edition than the correction of uncouth rhymes and awkward syllabification. Our version reflects with singular fidelity and wonderfully little amplification or licence the sense of the Psalms as they stand in our English Bibles. But that beautiful version, it is now acknowledged, needs to be revised. It would be a mistake to issue a new edition of the metrical translation without going to the Hebrew, and availing ourselves for its interpretation of the fruitful labours of the great scholars of Germany. The translation has, accordingly, been carefully revised, and a few notes are appended, which may enable unlearned readers to understand what has been done in this way.

THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

I.

- 1 THAT man hath perfect blessedness
 Who walketh not astray
In counsel of ungodly men,
 Nor stands in sinners' way,
- Nor sitteth in the scorner's chair ;
- 2 But placeth his delight
Upon God's law, and meditates
 On his law day and night.
- 3 He shall be like a goodly tree
 Near by a river seen,
Which in his season yields his fruit ;
 His leaf abideth green :
- And all he doth shall prosper well.
- 4 The wicked are not so ;
But like they are unto the chaff
 Which wind drives to and fro.
- 5 In judgment therefore shall not stand
 Such as ungodly are ;
Nor the assembly of the just
 Shall ill men's presence mar.

- 6 For why ? the way of godly men
Unto the Lord is known :
Whereas the way of wicked men
Shall quite be overthrown.

II.

- 1 WHY rage the heathen ? and vain things
Why do the people mind ?
2 Kings of the earth do set themselves,
And princes are combined,
To plot against the Lord, and his
Anointed, saying thus,
3 'Let us asunder break their bands,
And cast their cords from us.'
4 He that in heaven sits shall laugh ;
The Lord shall scorn them all.
5 Then shall he speak to them in wrath,
In terror to them call.
6 Yet notwithstanding, lo, my king
Establish'd firm have I ;
On Zion, mine own holy hill,
Have set my king on high.
7 The sure decree I will declare :
The Lord hath said to me,
'Thou art mine only Son ; this day
I have begotten thee.

-
- 8 'Ask of me, and for heritage
 The heathen I'll make thine ;
 And, for possession, I to thee
 Will give earth's utmost line.
- 9 'Thou shalt, as with a weighty rod
 Of iron, break them all ;
 And, as a potter's sherd, thou shalt
 Them dash in pieces small.'
- 10 Now therefore, kings, be wise ; be taught,
 Ye judges of the earth :
- 11 Serve God in fear, and see that ye
 Join trembling with your mirth.
- 12 Kiss ye the Son, lest in his ire
 Ye perish from the way ;
 For soon his wrath begins to burn.
 Blest all on him that stay.

III.

- 1 O LORD, how are my foes increased ;
 Against me many rise.
- 2 Of my soul many say, 'For him
 In God no succour lies.'
- 3 Yet thou my shield and glory art,
 Uplifter of my head.
- 4 I cried, and from his holy hill
 The Lord me answer made.

- 5 I laid me down and slept, I waked,
For God sustaineth me.
- 6 I will not fear though thousands ten
Set round against me be.
- 7 For on the cheek-bone thou, my God,
Didst smite mine enemy ;
The teeth of my ungodly foes
Have broken been by thee.
- Arise, O Lord ; save me, my God.
- 8 Help only is from thee.
Thy blessing, Lord, for evermore,
Upon thy people be.

IV.

- 1 GIVE ear unto me when I call,
God of my righteousness :
Have mercy, hear my prayer ; thou hast
Enlarged me in distress.
- 2 O ye the sons of men, how long
Will ye love vanity ?
How long my glory turn to shame,
And speak deceitfully ?
- 3 But know that for himself the Lord
The godly man doth choose :
The Lord when I on him do call,
To hear will not refuse.

-
- 4 Fear and sin not ; talk with your heart
 On bed, and silent be.
- 5 Offrings present of righteousness,
 And in the Lord trust ye.
- 6 ‘O who will show us any good ?’
 Is that which many say :
 But of thy countenance the light,
 Lord, lift on us alway.
- 7 Upon my heart, bestowed by thee,
 More gladness I have found
 Than they, even then when corn and wine
 Did most with them abound.
- 8 I will both lay me down in peace,
 And quiet sleep will take ;
 Because thou only me to dwell
 In safety, Lord, dost make.

V.

- 1 GIVE ear unto my words, O Lord,
 My meditation weigh.
- 2 Hear my loud cry, my King, my God,
 For I to thee will pray.
- 3 Lord, thou shalt early hear my voice ;
 I early will direct
 My prayer to thee, and looking up
 An answer will expect.

- 4 For thou art not a God that doth
In wickedness delight ;
Neither shall evil dwell with thee,
5 Nor fools stand in thy sight :

- All that ill-doers are thou hat'st,
6 Cutt'st off that liars be :
The bloody and deceitful man
Detested is by thee.

- 7 But I into thy house will come,
In thine abundant grace ;
And I will worship in thy fear,
Toward thy holy place.

- 8 Because of all mine enemies
In righteousness, I pray,
Do thou me lead ; before my face
Do thou make straight my way.

- 9 For in their mouth there is no truth,
Their inward part is ill ;
Their throat 's an open sepulchre,
Their tongue doth flatter still.

- 10 O God, destroy them ; let them be
By their own counsel quell'd ;
Them for their many sins cast out,
For they 'gainst thee rebell'd.

- 11 But let all joy that trust in thee,
And still make loud acclaim ;
For them thou savest ; let them joy
That love thy holy name.

- 12 For, Lord, unto the righteous man,
 Thou wilt thy blessing yield ;
 With favour thou wilt compass him
 About, as with a shield.

VI.

- 1 LORD, in thy wrath rebuke me not ;
 Nor in thy hot rage chasten me.
2 Lord, pity me, for I am weak :
 Heal me, for my bones troubled be.
- 3 My soul is also troubled sore ;
 But, Lord, how long stay wilt thou make ?
4 Return, O Lord, my soul set free ;
 O save me for thy mercies' sake.
- 5 Because those that departed are
 Of thee shall no remembrance keep ;
 And who shall ever give thee thanks
 Of all those in the grave that sleep ?
- 6 I with my groaning weary am ;
 I also all the night my bed
 Have made to swim ; my couch is wet
 With bitter tears that I have shed.
- 7 Mine eye consumed with grief grows old
 Because of all that are my foes :
8 Hence from me, wicked workers all ;
 For God hath hearken'd to my woes.

- 9 God hath my supplication heard,
 My prayer accepted graciously.
10 Shamed and sore vex'd be all my foes,
 Ashamed and routed suddenly.

VII.

- 1 O LORD my God, in thee do I
 My confidence repose ;
 Save and deliver me from all
 My persecuting foes ;
- 2 Lest that the enemy my soul
 Should, like a lion, tear,
 In pieces rending it, while none
 To save my life is there.
- 3 O Lord my God, if it be so
 That I committed this ;
 If it be so that in my hands
 Iniquity there is ;
- 4 If I rewarded ill to him
 That was at peace with me ;
(Yea, ev'n the man that without cause
 My foe was I did free ;)
- 5 Then let the foe pursue and take
 My soul, and my life thrust
 Down to the earth, and let him lay
 Mine honour in the dust.

-
- 6 Rise in thy wrath, Lord, raise thyself,
 For my foes raging be ;
 And to the judgment which thou hast
 Commanded, wake for me.
- 7 Let the assembly of thy folk
 About encompass thee ;
 Again in midst of them on high
 Sit thou and judge for me.
- 8 The Lord he shall the people judge ;
 My judge, Jehovah, be,
 According to my righteousness
 And mine integrity.
- 9 O let the wicked's malice end ;
 The righteous set on high
 Securely : for the righteous God
 The hearts and reins doth try.
- 10 In God, who saves th' upright in heart,
 Is my defence and stay.
- 11 God just men judgeth, God is wroth
 With ill men every day.
- 12 Assuredly he will return,
 And he his sword will whet ;
 His bow he hath already bent,
 And hath it ready set.
- 13 The instruments of death he hath
 Prepared and lying by ;
 His arrows also ready are
 As burning darts to fly.

- 14 But lo ! with utter vanity
He hath been travailing ;
Calamity he hath conceived,
And falsehood forth doth bring.
- 15 He made a pit, and digg'd it deep,
Another there to take ;
But he is fall'n into the ditch
Which he himself did make.
- 16 Upon his own head shall return
His cruel mischief home ;
Upon his own pate also down
His violence shall come.
- 17 According to his righteousness
The Lord I 'll magnify ;
And will sing praise unto the name
Of God that is most high.

VIII.

- 1 How excellent in all the earth,
Lord, our Lord, is thy name !
Who hast thy glory far advanced
Above the starry frame.
- 2 From infants' and from sucklings' mouth
Thou didst a strength upbuild
Against thy foes ; ev'n so, thou, Lord,
The vengeful foe hast still'd.

-
- 3 When I look up unto the heavens,
 Which thine own fingers framed,
Unto the moon, and to the stars,
 Which were by thee ordain'd ;
- 4 Then say I, What is man that he
 Remember'd is by thee ?
Or what the son of man, that thou
 So kind to him shouldst be ?
- 5 For thou a little lower hast
 Him than the godhead made
With glory and with dignity
 Thou hast adorn'd his head.
- 6 Of all thy works thou mad'st him lord,
 All 'neath his feet didst lay ;
- 7 All sheep and oxen, yea, and beasts
 That in the field do stray ;
- 8 Fowls of the air, fish of the sea,
 All that pass through the same.
- 9 How excellent in all the earth,
 Lord, our Lord, is thy name !

IX.

- 1 LORD, thee I'll praise with all my heart ;
 Thy wonders I'll proclaim.
- 2 In thee, Most High, I'll greatly joy,
 And sing unto thy name.

-
- 3 For back my foes were turn'd, they fell
 And perish'd at thy sight ;
- 4 Thou hast my cause maintain'd, and on
 Thy throne sat'st judging right.
- 5 The heathen thou hast sharp rebuked,
 The wicked overthrown ;
Thou hast put out their names, that they
 May never more be known.
- 6 The enemy, by thee destroy'd,
 In lasting ruin lies ;
The cities thou hast overthrown
 And their memorial dies.
- 7 God shall endure for aye ; he doth
 For judgment set his throne ;
- 8 In righteousness to judge the world,
 Justice to give each one.
- 9 God also will a refuge be
 For those that are oppress'd ;
A refuge will he be in time
 Of trouble to distress'd.
- 10 And they that know thy name in thee
 Their confidence will place ;
For thou hast not forsaken them
 That truly seek thy face.
- 11 O sing ye praises to the Lord,
 That dwells in Zion hill ;
Likewise among the nations all
 His deeds record ye still.

-
- 12 When he inquireth after blood,
 He then remembers them :
The humble folk he not forgets
 That call upon his name.
- 13 Lord, pity me, behold the grief
 I bear from hostile men ;
Ev'n thou, that from the gates of death
 Dost lift me up again.
- 14 That I, in Zion's daughters' gates,
 May all thy praise advance ;
And that I may rejoice always
 In thy deliverance.
- 15 The heathen in the pit are sunk
 Which they themselves prepared :
And in the net which they have hid
 Their own feet fast are snared.
- 16 The Lord is by the judgment known
 Which he himself hath wrought ;
And in the work of their own hands
 Are the ungodly caught.
- 17 The wicked into hell are turn'd,
 And there each one shall lie ;
And all the nations that forget
 To seek the Lord most high.
- 18 For they that needy are shall not
 Forgotten be alway ;
The expectation of the poor
 Shall not be lost for aye.

- 19 Arise, Lord, let not man prevail :
Judge heathen in thy sight :
20 That they may know themselves but men,
The nations, Lord, affright.

X

- 1 WHEREFORE is it that thou, O Lord,
Dost stand from us afar !
And wherefore hidest thou thyself,
When times so troublous are !
2 Through arrogance of wicked men,
The poor in anguish lie ;
In those snares let them taken be
Which they had thought to try.
3 The wicked of his heart's desire,
Doth talk with boasting great ;
He blesseth him that's covetous,
The Lord he still doth hate.
4 In his o'erweening confidence
Thus thinks the wicked man,
'There is no vengeance to be fear'd,
No God my ways to scan.'
5 His ways are always masterful ;
Thy judgments from his sight
Are far removed : at all his foes
He puffeth with despite.

-
- 6 Within his heart he thus hath said,
 ‘Moved I shall never be :
 And no adversity at all
 Shall ever come to me.’
- 7 His mouth with cursing, fraud, deceit,
 Is fill’d abundantly ;
 And underneath his tongue there is
 Mischief and vanity.
- 8 He closely sits in villages ;
 He slays the innocent :
 Against the poor who pass him by
 His cruel eyes are bent.
- 9 He lurks, like lion in his den,
 He waits to take the poor ;
 He takes the poor drawn in his net,
 Which holds them fast and sure.
- 10 Himself he boweth very low,
 He croucheth down withal,
 That so a multitude of poor
 May by his strong ones fall.
- 11 ‘God hath forgotten quite,’—’tis thus
 That in his heart saith he,—
 ‘He hides his countenance, and so
 My deeds will never see.’
- 12 O Lord, do thou arise ; O God,
 Lift thine avenging hand ;
 Forget not those that sorely are
 Oppress’d within the land.

- 13 Why is it that the wicked man
 Thus doth the Lord despise—
 That God will punish evil deeds
 He in his heart denies ?
- 14 Thou hast it seen ; and with thy hand
 Their spite thou wilt repay ;
 The poor commits himself to thee,
 Thou art the orphan's stay.
- 15 The arm break of the wicked man,
 And of the evil one ;
 That, seeking out his wickedness,
 Thou mayest find it gone.
- 16 The Lord is King through ages all,
 Ev'n to eternity ;
 The heathen people from his land
 Are perish'd utterly.
- 17 O Lord, of those that humble are
 Thou the desire didst hear ;
 Thou wilt confirm their heart, and thou
 To hear wilt bend thine ear.
- 18 To judge the fatherless and those
 That are oppress'd so sore ;
 That man, that is but sprung of earth,
 May them oppress no more.

XI.

- 1 I IN the Lord do put my trust :
How is it that ye say
Unto my soul, ' Flee, as a bird,
Unto your hill away :
- 2 ' For lo ! the wicked bend their bow,
Fit arrows on the string,
At those who upright are in heart,
Their secret darts to fling.'
- 3 When pillars of the common weal
Are thrown down to the ground,
What help is in the righteous man,
What safety hath he found ?
- 4 God is above ; God is in heaven ;
His throne is fixed on high ;
His eyes behold all things on earth ;
Men's sons his eyelids try.
- 5 God doth the righteous put to proof :
The wicked man of might
His soul abhors, and him that doth
In violence delight.
- 6 His fiery lightnings on bad men
And brimstone he shall pour ;
And, as the portion of their cup,
A furious storm shall roar.

- 7 For righteous is the Lord most high,
He loveth righteousness ;
And with the vision of his face
The upright he will bless.

XII.

- 1 HELP, Lord, because the godly man
Doth daily fade away :
And from among the sons of men
The faithful do decay.
- 2 Unto his neighbour every one
Doth utter vanity ;
They with a double heart do speak
And lips of flattery.
- 3 O God, cut off all flattering lips,
Tongues that speak proudly thus :
4 ' We 'll with our tongues prevail, our lips
Are ours : who 's lord o'er us ? '
- 5 ' For poor oppressed, and for the sighs
Of needy, rise will I,'
Saith God, and him in safety set
From such as him defy.
- 6 The words of God are words most pure,
They are like silver tried
In earthen furnace, that has been
Full seven times purified.

- 7 Lord, thou shalt them preserve and keep
For ever from this race.
8 On each side walk the wicked when
Vile men are high in place.

XIII.

- 1 How long wilt thou forget me, Lord ?
Shall it for ever be ?
O how long shall it be that thou
Wilt hide thy face from me ?
2 How long take counsel in my soul,
Still sad in heart, shall I ?
How long shall this my cruel foe
Exalt himself on high ?
3 O Lord my God, look down on me,
And answer to me make ;
Mine eye enlighten, lest the sleep
Of death me overtake.
4 Lest that mine enemy should say,
‘Gainst him I did prevail ;’
And those that trouble me rejoice
When I am moved and fail.
5 But I have all my confidence
Upon thy mercy set :
My heart within me shall rejoice
In thy salvation yet.

- 6 I will unto the Lord my God
Sing praises cheerfully,
Because he hath his bounty shown
To me abundantly.

XIV.

- 1 THAT there is not a God, the fool
Doth in his heart conclude :
They are corrupt, their works are vile ;
Not one of them does good.
- 2 The Lord upon the sons of men
From heaven did cast his eyes,
To see if any one there was
That sought God and was wise.
- 3 They altogether filthy are,
They all are backward gone ;
And there is none that doeth good ;
No, not so much as one.
- 4 These workers of iniquity
Do they not know at all,
That they my people eat as bread,
And on God do not call ?
- 5 Then fear'd they much ; for God is with
The whole race of the just.
- 6 You shame the counsel of the poor,
Because God is his trust.

- 7 Let Israel's help from Zion come ;
 When back the Lord shall bring
 His captives, Jacob shall rejoice,
 And Israel loud shall sing.

XV.

- 1 WITHIN thy tabernacle, Lord,
 Who shall abide with thee ?
 And in thy high and holy hill
 Who shall a dweller be ?
- 2 The man that walketh uprightly,
 And worketh righteousness,
 And as he thinketh in his heart,
 So doth he truth express.
- 3 Who doth not slander with his tongue,
 Nor seeks to hurt his friend :
 Nor yet, by spreading ill reports,
 His neighbour would offend.
- 4 In whose eyes vile men are despised ;
 But those that fear the Lord
 He honours : and, though to his harm,
 Stands firmly by his word.
- 5 His coin puts not to usury,
 Nor take reward will he
 Against the guiltless. Who doth thus
 Shall never moved be.

XVI.

- 1 LORD, keep me ; for I trust in thee.
2 To God thus do I say,
Thou art my Lord : in thee I find
My highest good alway.
- 3 The people in thy holy land,
Their princes, my delight,
4 To worship many idols vain
Have hasten'd in thy sight.
- Of their drink-offerings of blood
I will no offering make ;
Their very names I'll carefully
Beware on lip to take.
- 5 God is my heritage, my cup,
My portion, my chief gain :
The lot that unto me has fall'n
Thou only dost maintain.
- 6 Unto me happily the lines
In pleasant places fell ;
I have a heritage that doth
In goodliness excel.
- 7 I bless the Lord, because he doth
By counsel me conduct ;
And in the season of the night
My reins do me instruct.

- 8 Before me still the Lord I set ;
 Sith it is so that he
 Doth ever stand at my right hand,
 Moved I shall never be.
- 9 Because of this my heart is glad,
 And joy shall be express'd
 Ev'n by my glory ; and my flesh
 In confidence shall rest.
- 10 Because my soul in grave to dwell,
 Shall not be left by thee ;
 Nor wilt thou give thine holy one
 Corruption e'er to see.
- 11 Thou wilt me show the path of life ;
 Of joy there is full store
 Before thy face : at thy right hand
 Are pleasures evermore.

XVII.

- 1 LORD, hear the right, attend my cry ;
 Unto my prayer give heed,
 That doth not in hypocrisy
 From feigning lips proceed.
- 2 And from before thy presence forth
 My sentence do thou send ;
 Toward the things that equal are
 Do thou thine eyes intend.

- 3 Thou hast mine heart proved, and by night
 Me visited and tried,
 Finding in me no ill device,
 Hearing no word of pride.
- 4 As for man's works, I, by the word
 That from thy lips doth flow,
 Did me preserve out of the paths
 Wherein destroyers go.
- 5 My goings, Lord, have steadfast been
 In those thy paths divine ;
 Nor have my footsteps gone aside
 Out of those ways of thine.
- 6 On thy name I have called, O God,
 Because thou wilt me hear :
 That thou mayst hearken to my speech
 To me incline thine ear.
- 7 Thy wondrous loving-kindness show,
 Thou that, by thy right hand,
 Sav'st them that trust in thee from those
 That up against them stand.
- 8 As th' apple of the eye me keep ;
 Let thy wings me enclose
- 9 From lewd oppressors, compassing
 Me round, as deadly foes.
- 10 Their proud hearts they have hard enclosed ;
 Their mouth speaks loud and high.
- 11 Our steps they compass'd ; to the ground
 To bring us set their eye.


- 12 Most like unto a lion that
 Is greedy of his prey ;
 Or lion young which lurking doth
 In secret places stay.
- 13 Arise, and meet mine enemy,
 And cast him down, O Lord :
 My soul save from the wicked man
 By thine avenging sword.
- 14 From men by thy strong hand, O Lord,
 From worldly men save me,
 Who have their part in life, and fare
 Each day right joyously :
- Whose belly thou with treasure fill'st ;
 In offspring rich are they,
 And leave their substance to their sons
 When they are pass'd away.
- 15 But as for me, I thine own face
 In righteousness will see ;
 And with thy likeness, when I wake,
 I satisfied shall be.

XVIII.

- 1 THEE do I love, O Lord, my strength.
 My fortress is the Lord ;
 My rock, and he that doth to me
 Deliverance afford.

- My God, my strength, whom I will trust,
A buckler unto me,
The horn of my salvation too,
And my high tower is he.
- 3 Upon the Lord, to whom his folk
All praises justly owe,
I'll cry ; and then I shall be kept
Safe from my cruel foe.
- 4 Death's billows round encompass'd me ;
Me ruin's torrents shook.
- 5 Hell's cords about environ'd me ;
Death's snares me overtook.
- 6 In my distress I call'd on God,
To God I cried in fear ;
He from his dwelling heard, my cry
Found entrance to his ear.
- 7 Earth as affrighted then did shake,
Trembling upon it seized ;
The hills' foundations then were moved,
Because he was displeased.
- 8 Out from his nostrils came a smoke,
And from his mouth did go
Devouring fire, and burning coals
Did from his presence glow.
- 9 He also then bow'd down the heavens
And thence he did descend ;
And thickest clouds of darkness did
Under his feet attend.

- 10 And he upon the cherub rode,
And thereon he did fly ;
Yea, on the swift wings of the wind
His flight was from on high.
- 11 He darkness made his secret place ;
There his pavilion found :
Dark waters, thick clouds of the skies,
About him gather'd round.
- 12 And at the brightness of that light
Before his presence dire,
His thick clouds parted, fled abroad—
Hailstones and coals of fire.
- 13 The Lord God also in the heavens
Did thunder in his ire ;
And there the highest gave his voice,
Hailstones and coals of fire.
- 14 Yea, he his arrows sent abroad,
And scatter'd them in dread ;
His lightnings also he shot out,
And them discomfited.
- 15 The sea's deep channels then were seen,
The earth's foundations vast
At thy rebuke discover'd were,
And at thy nostril's blast.
- 16 Then reaching forth his saving hand,
He seized me from on high ;
From many waters drew me forth,
When I did fainting lie.

- 17 He rescued me from my strong foes,
 And such as did me hate ;
 Because he saw that they for me
 Too strong were, and too great.
- 18 They fell upon me in the day
 Of my calamity ;
 But even then the Lord himself
 A stay was unto me.
- 19 He to a place where liberty
 And room was hath me brought ;
 Because he took delight in me,
 He my deliv'rance wrought.
- 20 According to my righteousness
 He did me recompense ;
 He me repaid according to
 My hands' pure innocence.
- 21 For I God's ways kept, from my God
 Did not turn wickedly.
- 22 His judgments were before me, I
 His laws put not from me.
- 23 Sincere before him was my heart,
 I served him uprightly,
 And watchfully I kept myself
 From mine iniquity.
- 24 After my righteousness the Lord
 Hath well rewarded me,
 After the cleanness of my hands,
 Which he did plainly see.
- 

- 25 Thou gracious to the gracious art,
 To upright men upright :
- 26 Pure to the pure, thou froward seem'st
 Unto the froward wight.
- 27 For thou wilt the afflicted save
 In grief that low do lie ;
 But wilt bring down the countenance
 Of them whose looks are high.
- 28 The Lord will light my candle so
 That it shall shine full bright :
 The Lord my God will also make
 My darkness to be light.
- 29 By thee through troops of men I break,
 And them discomfit all ;
 And by my God assisting me
 I overleap a wall.
- 30 As for God, perfect is his way :
 The Lord, his Word is tried ;
 He is a buckler to all those
 Who do in him confide.
- 31 Who but the Lord is God ; but he
 Who is a rock and stay ?
- 32 'Tis God that girdeth me with strength,
 And even makes my way.
- 33 He made my feet swift as the hinds',
 To heights caused me ascend.
- 34 Mine hands to war he taught, mine arms
 A bow of steel to bend.

- 35 Moreover, thy salvation's shield
 Thou didst on me bestow :
 Thy right hand held me up, and great
 Thy kindness made me grow.
- 36 And in my way my steps thou hast
 Enlarged all under me,
 That I go safely, and my feet
 Are kept from sliding free.
- 37 Mine enemies I have pursued,
 And did them overtake ;
 Nor did I turn again till I
 An end of them did make.
- 38 I wounded them, they could not rise ;
 They at my feet did fall.
- 39 Thou girdedst me with strength for war ;
 My foes thou brought'st down all.
- 40 Thou hast made all mine enemies
 To turn their backs on me :
 And all that have my haters been
 Are broken utterly.
- 41 Aloud they cried, but there was none
 That would or could them save ;
 Yea, they did cry unto the Lord,
 But he no answer gave.
- 42 Then did I beat them small as dust
 Before the wind that flies ;
 And I did cast them out like dirt
 Upon the street that lies.

43 Thou mad'st me free from people's strife,
 And heathen's head to be ;
 A people whom I had not known
 Now service do to me.

44 As soon as me their ears do hear,
 They faithfully obey.

45 The sons of strangers abjectly
 To me their homage pay.

 The sons of strangers droop and fail
 For very fear of me ;
 And, sore afraid, at my approach
 From their strong castles flee.

46 God lives, praised be my rock ; the God
 Of my health blessed be,

47 That hath avenged me, and subdued
 The people under me.

48 Thou sav'st me from mine enemies ;
 Yea, thou hast lifted me
 Above mine adversaries ; from
 The wicked set me free.

49 Therefore to thee will I give thanks
 The heathen folk among ;
 And to thy name, O Lord, I will
 Give praises in a song.

50 He great deliv'rance gives his king,
 He mercy doth extend
 To David, his anointed one,
 And his seed without end.

XIX.

- 1 THE glory of almighty God
The heavens incessant praise ;
The wonder of his handiwork
The firmament displays.
- 2 Day to each coming day proclaims
His praise in gladsome light ;
Night darkly sings her mystic song
To every following night.
- 3 They have, indeed, no utter'd speech,
No language man can hear,
And as they tell their wondrous tale,
No sound invades the ear ;
- 4 Yet as the heavens' resplendent arch
O'er the wide world extends,
The word of their all-glorious praise
Goes to earth's farthest ends.
- 5 In them he hath set up a tent ;
Whence bridegroom-like the sun
Forth issues, as a strong man doth
Rejoice his race to run.
- 6 From end to end of heaven he doth
In glorious circuit go ;
And nothing on earth's broad expanse
Is hidden from his glow.

-
- 7 God's law is perfect, and converts
 The soul in sin that lies ;
 God's testimony is most sure,
 And makes the simple wise.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are right,
 And do rejoice the heart :
 The Lord's command is pure, and doth
 Light to the eyes impart.
- 9 Unspotted is the fear of God,
 For ever doth endure :
 The judgments of the Lord are true,
 They righteous are and sure.
- 10 They more to be desired than gold,
 Yea, than much fine gold, are :
 They're sweeter than the honeycomb,
 Than honey sweeter far.
- 11 Moreover, they thy servant warn
 How he his life should frame :
 A great reward provided is
 For them that keep the same.
- 12 Who can his errors understand ?
 O cleanse thou me within
 From secret faults. Thy servant keep
 From all presumptuous sin :
- 13 And do not suffer them to have
 Dominion over me.
 Then righteous I and innocent
 From great offence shall be.

- 14 The words which from my mouth proceed,
 The thoughts sent from my heart
 Accept, O Lord, for thou my strength
 And my redeemer art.

X X.

- 1 JEHOVAH hear thee in the day
 When trouble he doth send ;
 And let the name of Jacob's God
 Thee from all ill defend.
- 2 O let him help send from above
 Out of his holy place :
 From Zion let him strengthen thee,
 Of his abundant grace.
- 3 Let him remember all thy gifts,
 Accept thy sacrifice ;
- 4 Grant thee thine heart's wish and fulfil
 Thy thoughts and counsel wise.
- 5 In thy salvation we will joy ;
 In our God's name we will
 Display our banners : and the Lord
 Thy prayers all fulfil.
- 6 That his anointed God doth save
 I now well understand :
 From holy heaven he'll hear, with strength
 Of his benign right hand.

- 7 In chariots some put confidence,
Some horses trust upon ;
But we remember will the name
Of God the mighty One.
- 8 We rise and stand upright, when they
Are broken down and fall.
- 9 God save the King! And let the Lord
Hear us when we do call.

XXI.

- 1 THE King in thy great strength, O Lord,
Must very joyful be :
In the salvation thou hast wrought
Exceeding glad is he.
- 2 For every thing thou hast bestow'd
For which his heart has sigh'd ;
Thou hast withholden nought from him
For which his lips have cried.
- 3 And him with blessings thou dost meet
Of goodness manifold ;
And thou hast set upon his head
A crown of purest gold.
- 4 When life he from thy hand desired,
Thou life to him didst give ;
Ev'n such a length of days, that he
For evermore should live.

- 5 In that salvation wrought by thee
His glory great is made ;
Honour and comely majesty
Hast thou upon him laid.
- 6 Because thou hast him surely made
Most blessed evermore ;
Thou hast crown'd him abundantly
With joy thy face before.
- 7 Because the king upon the Lord
His confidence doth lay ;
And through the grace of the Most High
Shall not be moved away.
- 8 Thine hand shall find thine enemies,
And force them to obey ;
Thy right hand shall thy haters find,
And them before thee slay.
- 9 Like fiery oven thou shalt them make,
When kindled is thine ire ;
God shall them swallow in his wrath,
Devour them shall the fire.
- 10 Their fruit from earth thou shalt destroy,
Their seed from men among :
- 11 For they beyond their might 'gainst thee
Did mischief plot and wrong.
- 12 So thou shalt make them turn their backs
When thou thy shafts shalt place
Upon thy strings, made ready all
To fly against their face.

- 13 Now, in thine own almightiness
 Do thou arise, O Lord ;
 So we in praise of thy great power
 Will sing with one accord.

XXII.

- 1 MY God, my God, why hast thou me
 Forsaken ? Why so far
 Art thou from helping me, and from
 My words that roaring are ?
- 2 All day, my God, to thee I cry,
 Yet am not heard by thee ;
 And in the season of the night
 I cannot silent be.
- 3 But thou art holy, thou that dost
 Israel's high praise receive.
- 4 Our fathers hoped in thee : they hoped,
 And thou didst them relieve.
- 5 When unto thee they sent their cry,
 To them deliv'rance came ;
 Because they put their trust in thee,
 They were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, a worm am I,
 And as no man am prized ;
 Reproach of men I am, and by
 The people am despised.

- 7 All that me see laugh me to scorn ;
Shoot out the lip do they ;
They nod and shake their heads at me,
And mocking thus do say,
- 8 ' This man did trust in God, that he
Would free him by his might ;
Let him deliver him, sith he
Had in him such delight.'
- 9 But thou art he out of the womb
That didst me safely take ;
And on my mother's bosom me
To lie in peace didst make.
- 10 And I was cast upon thy care,
Ev'n from the womb till now ;
And from my mother's belly, Lord,
My God and guide art thou.
- 11 Be not far off, for grief is near,
And none to help is found.
- 12 Bulls many compass me, strong bulls
Of Bashan me surround.
- 13 Their mouths they open'd wide on me,
Upon me gape did they,
Like to a lion ravening
And roaring for his prey.
- 14 Like water I'm pour'd out, my bones
All out of joint do part ;
Amidst my bowels, as the wax,
So melted is my heart.

-
- 15 My strength is like a potsherd dried ;
 My tongue it cleaveth fast
 Unto my jaws : and to the dust
 Of death thou brought me hast.
- 16 For dogs have compass'd me about ;
 Bad men in rabble fierce
 Came round about me, held me fast,
 My hands and feet did pierce.
- 17 I all my bones may tell. They do
 Upon me look and stare.
- 18 Upon my vesture lots they cast,
 And clothes among them share.
- 19 But be not far, O Lord, my strength ;
 Haste to give help to me.
- 20 From sword my soul, from power of dogs,
 My darling set thou free.
- 21 Save me from out the lion's mouth,
 That threatens to devour ;
 From out the horns of buffaloes,
 O save me by thy power.
- 22 Unto those that my brethren are
 I will show forth thy name :
 In the assembly of thy folk
 I will declare thy fame.
- 23 Praise ye the Lord who do him fear ;
 Him glorify, all ye
 The seed of Jacob ; fear him, all
 That Israel's children be.

- 24 For he despised not nor abhorr'd
Th' afflicted's misery,
Nor from him hid his face, but heard
When unto him cried he.
- 25 Within the congregation great
My praise shall be of thee ;
My vows before them that him fear
Shall be perform'd by me.
- 26 The meek shall eat, and shall be fill'd ;
They also praise shall give
Unto the Lord that do him seek :
Your heart shall ever live.
- 27 All ends of th' earth remember shall,
And turn the Lord unto ;
All heathen tribes throughout the world
To him shall homage do.
- 28 Because the kingdom to the Lord
Our God doth appertain ;
Among the nations only he
Doth government maintain.
- 29 Earth's fat ones eat, and worship shall :
All who to dust descend,
And cannot keep alive their soul,
Before the Lord shall bend.
- 30 Our seed shall service do to him ;
And men in future days,
To generations yet to come,
Shall tell God's wondrous ways.

- 31 They shall come, and his righteousness
 Shall tell while time shall run ;
 Unto the men that shall be born
 Shall tell what he hath done.

XXIII.

- 1 THE Lord 's my shepherd, I 'll not want.
 2 He makes me down to lie
 In pastures green : he leadeth me
 The quiet waters by.
- 3 My soul he doth restore again ;
 And me to walk doth make
 Within the paths of righteousness,
 Ev'n for his own name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
 Yet will I fear none ill :
 For thou art with me ; and thy rod
 And staff me comfort still.
- 5 My table thou hast furnish'd well
 In presence of my foes ;
 My head thou dost with oil anoint,
 And my cup overflows.
- 6 Goodness and mercy all my life
 Shall surely follow me ;
 And in God's house for evermore
 My dwelling-place shall be.

XXIV.

- 1 THE earth belongs unto the Lord,
And all that it contains,
The round world, and all living things
That dwell upon its plains.
- 2 For the foundations of the earth
He in the seas did lay,
And he hath it establish'd sure
Upon the floods to stay.
- 3 Who is the man that to the hill
Of God shall well ascend ?
Or who within his holy place
Shall worthily attend ?
- 4 Whose hands are clean, whose heart is pure,
And unto vanity
Who hath not lifted up his soul,
Nor sworn deceitfully.
- 5 He from the Lord shall grace receive,
Who will him greatly bless ;
The Lord, of his salvation God,
Shall send down righteousness.
- 6 These are the folk that worthily
May after him inquire ;
O Jacob's God, who seek thy face
With their whole heart's desire.

-
- 7 Ye gates, lift up your heads on high ;
 Ye doors, that last for aye,
 Be lifted up, that so the King
 Of glory enter may.
- 8 But who of glory is the King ?
 The mighty Lord is this ;
 Ev'n that same Lord, that great in might
 And strong in battle is.
- 9 Ye gates, lift up your heads ; ye doors,
 Doors that do last for aye,
 Be lifted up, that so the King
 Of glory enter may.
- 10 But who is he that is the King
 Of glory ? Who is this ?
 The Lord of Hosts, and none but he
 The King of glory is.

XXV.

- 1 To thee I lift my soul :
 2 O Lord, I trust in thee ;
 Let not my foes put me to shame,
 Nor triumph over me.
- 3 Let none that wait on thee
 Be put to shame at all ;
 But those that without cause transgress,
 Let shame upon them fall.

- 4 Show me thy ways, O Lord ;
Thy paths O teach thou me :
5 And do thou lead me in thy truth,
Therein my teacher be.

For thou art God that dost
To me salvation send,
And I upon thee all the day
Expecting do attend.

- 6 Thy tender mercies, Lord,
Remember, I thee pray,
And loving-kindnesses, for they
Have been of old alway.

- 7 Let not my faults of youth,
Nor sins remember'd be :
In mercy for thy goodness' sake,
O Lord, remember me.

- 8 God good and upright is ;
The way he'll sinners show.
9 The meek in judgment he will guide,
And make his paths to know.

- 10 The whole paths of the Lord
Are truth and mercy sure,
To those that keep his covenant
And testimonies pure.

- 11 Now for thine own name's sake,
I humbly thee implore
To pardon all my grievous sin,
And peace to me restore.

-
- 12 What man is he that fears
 The Lord and doth him serve ?
 Him shall he teach the way that he
 Shall choose and still observe.
- 13 His soul shall dwell at ease ;
 And his posterity
 Shall flourish still, and of the earth
 Inheritors shall be.
- 14 With those that fear him is
 The secret of the Lord ;
 The knowledge of his covenant
 He will to them afford.
- 15 Mine eyes upon the Lord
 Unweariedly are set ;
 For he it is that shall bring forth
 My feet out of the net.
- 16 Turn unto me thy face,
 And to me mercy show ;
 Because that I am desolate,
 And am brought very low.
- 17 My heart's griefs are increased ;
 Me from distress relieve.
- 18 See mine affliction and my pain,
 And all my sins forgive.
- 19 Consider thou my foes,
 Because they many be ;
 And it a cruel hatred is
 Wherewith they do hate me.

- 20 O do thou keep my soul,
Do thou deliver me :
And let me never be ashamed,
Because I trust in thee.
- 21 Let uprightness and truth
Keep me, who thee attend.
- 22 Redemption, Lord, to Israël
From all his troubles send.

X X V I.

- 1 JUDGE me, O Lord, for uprightly
To walk I still have tried :
I trusted also in the Lord,
And so I shall not slide.
- 2 Examine me, and do me prove,
Try heart and reins, O God :
- 3 For thy love is before mine eyes,
Thy truth's paths I have trod.
- 4 With persons vain I have not sat,
Nor with dissemblers run :
- 5 Th' assembly of ill men I hate,
All evil-doers shun.
- 6 Mine hands in innocence, O Lord,
I'll wash and purify ;
So to thine holy altar go,
And compass it will I :

- 7 That I with voice of thanksgiving
 May publish all abroad,
 And tell of all thy mighty works
 That wondrous are, O God.
- 8 The habitation of thy house,
 Lord, I have loved right well ;
 Yea, in that place I do delight
 Where doth thine honour dwell.
- 9 With sinners gather not my soul,
 And such as blood would spill :
 10 Whose hands are full of shameful deeds,
 Their right hand bribes do fill.
- 11 But as for me, I will walk on
 In mine integrity :
 O Lord, do thou redeem me and
 Be merciful to me.
- 12 My foot upon an even place
 Doth stand with steadfastness :
 Within the congregations I
 The Lord will ever bless.

XXVII.

- 1 THE Lord's my light and saving health,
 Who shall make me dismay'd ?
 My life's strength is the Lord ; of whom
 Then shall I be afraid ?

-
- 2 Whenas mine enemies and foes,
 Most wicked persons all,
 To eat my flesh against me rose,
 They stumbled and did fall.
- 3 Against me though an host encamp,
 My trustful heart is bold :
 Though war against me rise, still fast
 My confidence I hold.
- 4 One thing I of the Lord desired,
 And will seek to obtain,
 That all days of my life I may
 Within God's house remain.

That I the beauty of the Lord
 Behold may and admire,
 And that I in his holy place
 May reverently inquire.

- 5 For he in his pavilion shall
 Me hide in evil days ;
 In secret of his tent me hide,
 And on a rock me raise.
- 6 And now, ev'n at this present time,
 Mine head shall lifted be
 Above all those that are my foes,
 And round encompass me :

That to his tabernacle I
 May sacrifices bring
 Of joyfulness ; I'll sing, yea, I
 To God will praises sing.

-
- 7 O Lord, give ear unto my voice
 When I do cry to thee ;
 Upon me also mercy have,
 And do thou answer me.
- 8 My heart goes with the gracious word
 That bids us seek thy face :
 Thy face I will most surely seek,
 O Lord of light and grace.
- 9 Far from me hide not thou thy face ;
 Put not away from thee
 Thy servant in thy wrath : thou hast
 An helper been to me.
- O Lord God of my saving health
 Leave me not, nor forsake :
 10 Though me my parents both should leave
 The Lord will me uptake.
- 11 O Lord, instruct me in thy way,
 To me a leader be
 In a plain path, because of those
 That hatred bear to me.
- 12 Give me not to my haters' will ;
 For lying witnesses
 Against me risen are, and such
 As cruel things express.
- 13 I fainted had, unless that I
 Had trusted I should see
 The Lord's own goodness in the land
 Of them that living be.

- 14 Wait on the Lord, and be thou bold,
 And he shall strength afford
 Unto thine heart ; yea, do thou wait,
 I say, upon the Lord.

XXVIII.

- 1 To thee I'll cry, O Lord my rock ;
 Hold not thy peace from me,
 Lest like those that to grave go down
 I by thy silence be.
- 2 The voice hear of my humble prayers
 When unto thee I cry ;
 When toward thy holy mercy-seat
 I lift mine hands on high.
- 3 With ill men draw me not away
 That work iniquity ;
 That to their friends speak peace, while in
 Their heart is enmity.
- 4 Give them according to their deeds,
 After their cruel way :
 After the work of their own hands,
 As they deserve them pay.
- 5 God shall not build but them destroy
 Who will not understand
 His operations, nor regard
 The doing of his hand.

- 6 For ever blessed be the Lord,
For graciously he heard
My humble supplications' voice,
And prayers did regard.
- 7 The Lord's my strength and shield: my heart
In him hoped trustfully,
And I am succour'd ; hence my heart
Doth joy exceedingly ;
- And with my strength I will him praise.
- 8 Their strength is God most high ;
He also is the saving strength
On whom his folk rely.
- 9 O thine own people do thou save,
Bless thine inheritance :
Them also do thou feed, and them
For evermore advance.

XXIX.

- 1 GIVE ye unto the Lord most high,
O sons of God, give ye,
Give ye unto the mighty Lord
Glory and majesty.
- 2 Unto the Lord the glory give
That to his name is due ;
In festal robes of holiness
To God give worship true.

- 3 God's voice upon the waters is ;
 The God of majesty
 Doth thunder, and on high above
 Great waters throned is he.
- 4 God's voice is in great might and power,
 God's voice in majesty.
- 5 God's voice the cedars shattereth,
 Ev'n Lebanon's great tree.
- 6 He makes them like a calf to skip,
 Ev'n that great Lebanon ;
 And like to a young buffalo,
 The lofty Sirion.
- 7 God's voice sends forth the cloven fire ;
 God's voice doth deserts shake :
- 8 The Lord doth cause the wilderness
 Of Kadesh all to quake.
- 9 God's voice doth make the hinds bring forth,
 It makes the forest bare ;
 And in his dwelling every one
 His glory doth declare.
- 10 The Lord sits on the mighty flood,
 Sits King, and shall for aye.
- 11 The Lord will give his people strength,
 With peace bless them alway.

XXX.

- 1 LORD, I will thee extol; for thou
 On high hast lifted me,
 And over me thou to rejoice
 Mad'st not mine enemy.
- 2 O thou who art the Lord my God,
 I in distress to thee
 With loud cries lifted up my voice,
 And thou hast healed me.
- 3 O Lord, my soul thou hast brought up
 And rescued from the grave,
 That I to pit should not go down,
 Alive thou didst me save.
- 4 O ye that are his holy ones,
 Sing praises to the Lord;
 And unto him give thanks, when ye
 His holiness record.
- 5 For but a moment lasts his wrath,
 His favour is life long;
 Though tears flow at the eventide,
 Morn brings a joyful song.
- 6 In my prosperity I said
 'Now I shall never slide.'
- 7 O Lord, by thy love, like a hill
 I strongly did abide.

But when that thou, O gracious God,
Didst hide thy face from me,
Then quickly was my prosp'rous state
Turn'd into misery.

8 Wherefore unto the Lord my cry
I then caused to ascend ;
My supplication humbly made
I to the Lord did send.

9 When to a bloody grave I go,
What profit is to thee ?
Shall dust give praise or show thy truth ?
10 Have mercy, Lord ; help me.

11 Thou hast for me my mourning turn'd
To dance and mirthful sound :
My sackcloth thou hast laid aside,
With joy me girded round :

12 That my glad soul might sing thy praise,
And never silent be.
O Lord my God, for evermore
I will give thanks to thee.

XXXI.

1 IN thee, O Lord, I put my trust ;
Shamed let me never be ;
According to thy righteousness
Do thou deliver me.

- 2 Bow down thine ear to me, with speed
 To me deliverance send ;
 To save me my strong rock be thou,
 My fortress to defend.
- 3 Because thou art my rock, and thee
 I for my fortress take,
 Therefore do thou me lead and guide,
 Ev'n for thine own name's sake.
- 4 And sith thou art my strength, therefore
 Pull me out of the net,
 Which they in subtilty for me
 So privily have set.
- 5 Into thy hands I do commit
 My spirit : thou art he,
 O thou Jehovah, God of truth,
 That hast deliver'd me.
- 6 Those that do lying vanities
 Regard, I have abhorr'd :
 But as for me, my confidence
 Is fix'd upon the Lord.
- 7 I'll in thy mercy gladly joy :
 For thou my miseries
 Consider'd hast : thou hast my soul
 Known in adversities.
- 8 And thou hast not deliver'd me
 Into the en'my's hand ;
 And by thee have my feet been made
 In a large room to stand.

- 9 O Lord, upon me mercy have,
For trouble is on me :
Mine eye, my belly and my soul
With sorrow wasted be.
- 10 Because my life with grief is spent,
My years with sighs and groans :
My strength doth fail ; and for my sin
Consumed are all my bones.
- 11 I was a scorn to all my foes,
And to my friends a fear ;
And specially reproach'd of those
That were my neighbours near :

When they me saw they from me fled.
- 12 Ev'n so I am forgot,
As men are out of mind when dead :
I'm like a broken pot.
- 13 For slanders I of many heard ;
Fear compass'd me, while they
Against me did consult, and plot
To take my life away.
- 14 But as for me, O Lord, my trust
Upon thee I did lay ;
And I to thee, ' Thou art my God,'
Did confidently say.
- 15 My times are wholly in thy hand :
Do thou deliver me
From their hands that mine enemies
And persecutors be.

-
- 16 Thy countenance to shine do thou
Upon thy servant make ;
Unto me thy salvation give
For thy great mercies' sake.
- 17 Let me not be ashamed, O Lord,
For I to thee did cry :
Let bad men be ashamed, let them
In cold grave silent lie.
- 18 To silence put the lying lips
That grievous things do say,
And hard reports, in pride and scorn,
On righteous men do lay.
- 19 How great's the goodness thou for them
That fear thee keep'st in store,
And work'st for them that trust in thee
The sons of men before !
- 20 In secret of thy presence thou
Shalt hide them from man's pride ;
From strife of tongues thou closely shalt
As in a tent them hide.
- 21 All praise and thanks be to the Lord ;
For he did manifest
His wondrous love to me whenas
I was most sorely press'd.
- 22 'For from thine eyes cut off I am,'
I in my haste had said ;
My voice yet heardst thou, when to thee
With cries my moan I made.

- 23 O love the Lord, all ye his saints ;
Because the Lord doth guard
The faithful, and he plenteously
Proud doers doth reward.
- 24 Be of good courage, and he strength
Unto your heart shall send,
All ye whose hope and confidence
Doth on the Lord depend.

XXXII.

- 1 BLEST is the man whom God forgives
Faults and transgressions vile ;
- 2 Imputing not to him his sin ;
Whose spirit knows no guile.
- 3 Whenas I did refrain my speech,
And silent was my tongue,
My bones decay'd the while that I
Was grieving all day long.
- 4 For upon me both day and night
Thine hand did heavy lie,
So that the sap within my bones
Is made like summer dry.
- 5 My sin I own'd, I did not hide
My trespasses from thee ;
But frankly did confess, and thou
Freely forgavest me.

- 6 For this let every godly one
His prayer make to thee ;
Let him thee seek in such a time
As found thou mayest be.

Then when the floods of waters great
Do swell up to the brim,
They shall not overwhelm his soul,
Nor once come near to him.

- 7 Thou art my hiding-place, thou shalt
From trouble keep me free ;
Thou with songs of deliverance
About shalt compass me.

- 8 I will instruct thee, and thee teach
The way that thou shalt go ;
And with mine eye upon thee set,
I will direction show.

- 9 Then be not like the horse or mule
Which do not understand ;
Whose mouth, when they come near to thee,
A bridle must command.

- 10 Unto the man that wicked is,
His sorrows shall abound ;
But him that trusteth in the Lord,
Mercy shall compass round.

- 11 Ye righteous, in the Lord be glad,
In him do ye rejoice ;
All ye that upright are in heart,
For joy lift up your voice.

XXXIII.

- 1 YE righteous, in the Lord rejoice ;
It comely is and right
That upright men with thankful voice
Should praise the Lord of might.
- 2 Praise God with harp, and unto him
Sing with the psaltery ;
Upon a ten-string'd instrument
Make ye sweet melody.
- 3 A new song to him sing, and play
With loud noise skilfully ;
- 4 For right is God's word, all his works
Are done in verity.
- 5 To judgment and to righteousness
A love he beareth still ;
The loving-kindness of the Lord
The earth throughout doth fill.
- 6 The heavens by the word of God
Did their beginning take ;
And by the breathing of his mouth
He all their hosts did make.
- 7 The waters of the seas he brings
Together as an heap ;
And in storehouses, as it were,
He layeth up the deep.

-
- 8 Let earth, and all that live therein,
 With rev'rence fear the Lord ;
Let all the world's inhabitants
 Dread him with one accord.
- 9 For he did speak the word, and done
 It was without delay ;
Establish'd it securely stood,
 Whatever he did say.
- 10 God doth the counsel bring to nought
 Which heathen folk do take ;
And what the people do devise
 Of none effect doth make.
- 11 O but the counsel of the Lord
 Doth stand for ever sure ;
And of his heart the purposes
 From age to age endure.
- 12 That nation blessed is, whose God
 Jehovah is, and those
A blessed people are, whom for
 His heritage he chose.
- 13 The Lord from heaven sees and beholds
 All sons of men full well ;
- 14 He views all from his dwelling-place
 That in the earth do dwell.
- 15 He who the hearts of all men forms
 Their doings all observes.
- 16 Great hosts save not a king, much strength
 No mighty man preserves.

- 17 An horse for saving of a man
 Is a deceitful thing ;
 And by the greatness of his strength
 Can no deliv'rance bring.
- 18 Behold, on those that do him fear
 The Lord doth set his eye ;
 Ev'n those who on his mercy do
 With confidence rely.
- 19 From death to free their souls, in dearth
 Life unto them to yield.
- 20 Our soul doth wait upon the Lord ;
 He is our help and shield.
- 21 Sith in his holy name we trust,
 Our heart shall joyful be.
- 22 Lord, let thy mercy be on us,
 As we do hope in thee.

XXXIV.

- 1 GOD will I bless all times ; his praise
 My mouth shall still express.
- 2 My soul shall boast in God ; the meek
 Shall hear with joyfulness.
- 3 Together let us praise the Lord,
 Exalt his name with me.
- 4 I sought the Lord, he heard, and did
 Me from all fears set free.

-
- 5 They look'd to him for help and light,
 And never look'd in vain.
- 6 This poor man cried, God heard, and saved
 Him from distress and pain.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps,
 And round encompasseth
 All those about that do him fear,
 And them delivereth.
- 8 O taste and see that God is good ;
 Who trusts in him is bless'd.
- 9 Fear God, his saints ; none that him fear
 Shall be with want oppress'd.
- 10 The lions young may hungry be,
 And they may lack their food ;
 But they that truly seek the Lord
 Shall not lack any good.
- 11 O children, hither do ye come,
 And unto me give ear ;
 I shall teach you to understand
 How ye the Lord should fear.
- 12 What man is he that life desires,
 To see good would live long ?—
- 13 Thy lips refrain from speaking guile,
 And from ill words thy tongue.
- 14 Depart from ill, do good, seek peace,
 Pursue it earnestly.
- 15 God's eyes are on the just : his ears
 Their cry hear willingly.

- 16 The face of God is set against
 Those that do wickedly,
 That he may quite out from the earth
 Cut off their memory.
- 17 The righteous cry unto the Lord,
 He unto them attends ;
 And out of all their troubles he
 To them deliv'rance sends.
- 18 To them that are of broken heart
 The Lord is ever nigh ;
 Those that of spirit contrite are
 He saveth graciously.
- 19 The troubles that afflict the just
 In number many be ;
 But yet at length out of them all
 The Lord doth set him free.
- 20 He carefully his bones doth keep,
 Whatever doth befall ;
 That not so much as one of them
 Can broken be at all.
- 21 Ill shall the wicked slay : laid waste
 Shall be who hate the just.
- 22 The Lord redeems his servants' souls ;
 None perish that him trust.

X X X V.

- 1 STRIVE, Lord, with those that strive : and fight
With those that fight with me.
- 2 Of shield and buckler take thou hold,
Stand up mine help to be.
- 3 Draw out the spear and battle-axe ;
Against them stop the way
That me pursue : unto my soul,
'I'm thy salvation,' say.
- 4 Let them confounded be and shamed
That for my soul have sought :
Turn'd back be they who plot my hurt,
And to confusion brought.
- 5 Let them be like unto the chaff
That flies before the wind ;
And let the angel of the Lord
Pursue them hard behind.
- 6 With darkness cover thou their way,
And make it slippery ;
And let the angel of the Lord
Pursue them as they flee.
- 7 For without cause their net for me
They privily have laid ;
They also for my soul a pit
Without a cause have made.

- 8 Let ruin seize him unawares ;
 In nets which he had laid
 Himself be caught ; and let him fall
 Into the pit he made.
- 9 My soul in God shall joy ; and glad
 In his salvation be :
- 10 And all my bones shall say, ' O Lord,
 Who is like unto thee ?
- ' Who dost the poor set free from him
 That is for him too strong ;
 The poor and needy from the man
 That spoils and does him wrong.'
- 11 False witnesses rose ; to my charge
 Things I know not they laid.
- 12 They to the spoiling of my soul
 Me ill for good repaid.
- 13 But as for me, when they were sick,
 In sackcloth sad I mourn'd ;
 My humbled soul did fast, my prayer
 Into my bosom turn'd.
- 14 Myself I did behave as he
 Had been my friend or brother ;
 I heavily bow'd down as one
 That mourneth for his mother.
- 15 But in my trouble they rejoiced,
 Gath'ring themselves together ;
 Yea, abjects vile together did
 Themselves against me gather :

-
- I knew it not ; they did me tear,
And quiet would not be.
- 16 With mocking hypocrites at feasts
They gnash'd their teeth at me.
- 17 How long, Lord, look'st thou on ? from those
Destructions they intend
Rescue my soul : from lions young
My darling do defend.
- 18 Within th' assembly great I will
Give thanks to thee, O Lord ;
I'll praise thee where much people are
Convened with one accord.
- 19 Let not my wrongful enemies
Be at my fall elate ;
Nor let them wink and mock at me
That without cause me hate.
- 20 For peace they do not speak at all ;
But hatch plots craftily
Against all those within the land
That would live quietly.
- 21 With mouths set wide they 'gainst me said,
'Ha, ha ! our eye doth see.'
- 22 Lord, thou hast seen ; hold not thy peace ;
Lord, be not far from me.
- 23 Stir up thyself ; wake, that thou mayst
Judgment to me afford,
Ev'n to my cause, O thou that art
My only God and Lord.

- 24 O Lord my God, do thou me judge
After thy righteousness ;
And let them not their joy 'gainst me
Triumphantly express.
- 25 Nor let them say within their hearts,
'Ah ! we would have it thus ;'
Nor suffer them to say that he
Is swallow'd up by us.
- 26 Shamed and confounded be they all
That at my hurt are glad ;
Let those against me that do boast
With shame and scorn be clad.
- 27 Let them that love my righteous cause
Be glad, and never cease
To say, 'The Lord be magnified
Who loves his servant's peace.'
- 28 Thy righteousness shall also be
Declared by my glad tongue ;
And thy most worthy praise, O Lord,
Shall all day long be sung.

XXXVI.

- 1 WITHIN the wicked's heart a thought
Of evil lurking lies ;
Undoubtedly the fear of God
Is not before his eyes.

-
- 2 Because himself he flattereth
 In his own blinded eye,
 As if his hateful wickedness
 Would not be seen on high.
- 3 Words from his mouth proceeding are,
 Fraud and iniquity :
 He to be wise and to do good
 Hath left off utterly.
- 4 He mischief lying on his bed,
 Most cunningly doth plot :
 He sets himself in ways not good,
 Ill he abhorreth not.
- 5 Thy mercy, Lord, is in the heavens ;
 Thy truth doth reach the clouds :
6 Thy justice is like mountains great ;
 Thy judgments deep as floods :
- Lord, thou preservest man and beast.
7 How precious is thy grace !
 Therefore in shadow of thy wings
 Men's sons their trust shall place.
- 8 They with the fatness of thy house
 Shall be well satisfied ;
 From rivers of thy pleasures thou
 Wilt drink to them provide.
- 9 Because of life the fountain pure
 Remains alone with thee ;
 And in that purest light of thine
 We clearly light shall see.

- 10 Thy lovingkindness unto them
Continue that thee know ;
And still on men upright in heart
Thy righteousness bestow.
- 11 Let not the foot of cruel pride
Come and against me stand ;
And let me never be removed,
Lord, by the wicked's hand.
- 12 There fall'n are they, and ruin'd quite
That are ungodly men :
Cast down are they ev'n to the ground,
And shall not rise again.

XXXVII.

- 1 FOR evil-doers fret thou not
Thyself unquietly :
Nor do thou envy bear to those
That work iniquity.
- 2 For even like unto the grass,
Soon be cut down shall they ;
And, like the green and tender herb,
They wither shall away.
- 3 Set thou thy trust upon the Lord,
And be thou doing good ;
And so thou in the land shalt dwell,
And verily have food.

-
- 4 Delight thyself in God ; he'll give
Thine heart's desire to thee.
- 5 Thy way to God commit, him trust,
It bring to pass shall he.
- 6 And like unto the light he shall
Thy righteousness display ;
And he thy judgment shall bring forth
Like noon-tide of the day.
- 7 Rest in the Lord, and patiently
Wait for him : do not fret
For him who, prosp'ring in his way,
Success in sin doth get.
- 8 Do thou from anger cease, and wrath
See thou forsake also :
Fret not thyself ; from fretting nought
But evil e'er can flow.
- 9 For those that evil-doers are
At last shall meet their fate ;
But those the earth inherit shall
Upon the Lord that wait.
- 10 For yet a little while and then
The wicked shall not be ;
His place thou shalt consider well,
But it thou shalt not see.
- 11 But they that meek of spirit are
Inherit shall the land ;
In an abundant peace then shall
Their sure refreshment stand.

- 12 The wicked, gnashing with his teeth,
 'Gainst just new plots doth lay.
- 13 The Lord shall laugh at him because
 He sees his coming day.
- 14 The wicked have drawn out the sword,
 And bent their bow, to slay
The poor and needy, and to kill
 Men of an upright way.
- 15 But their own sword, which they have drawn,
 Shall enter their own heart ;
Their bows which they have bent shall break
 And into pieces part.
- 16 A little that a just man hath
 Is more and better far
Than is the wealth of many such
 As lewd and wicked are.
- 17 For sinners' arms shall broken be ;
 But God the just sustains.
- 18 God knows the just men's days ; and still
 Their heritage remains.
- 19 The just shall not be put to shame ;
 When mischief doth betide,
And when the days of famine are,
 They shall be satisfied.
- 20 But wicked men shall be destroy'd,
 And they that God provoke
Like grass shall wither, pass away,
 Evanishing like smoke.

-
- 21 The wicked borrows, but the same
 Again he doth not pay ;
 Whereas the righteous mercy shows,
 And gives his own away.
- 22 For such as blessed be of him
 Inherit shall the land ;
 And they that cursèd are shall be
 Uprooted by his hand.
- 23 A good man's footsteps by the Lord
 Are order'd sure and right ;
 And in the way wherein he walks
 He greatly doth delight.
- 24 Although he fall, yet on the ground
 He shall not prone remain ;
 Because God holding fast his hand
 Will set him up again.
- 25 I have been young and now am old,
 Yet have I never seen
 The just man left, nor that his seed
 For bread have beggars been.
- 26 He's ever merciful and lends,
 His seed shall prosper aye.
- 27 Depart from ill, do good, and thou
 Shalt safe abide alway.
- 28 For God loves judgment, and his saints
 Leaves not in any case ;
 They are preserved : but yet shall be
 Cut off the sinners' race.

- 29 The just inherit shall the land,
 And ever in it dwell.
- 30 The just man's mouth doth wisdom speak,
 His tongue doth judgment tell.
- 31 The law of God is in his heart,
 His steps slide not away.
- 32 The wicked man doth watch the just
 And seeketh him to slay.
- 33 Yet him the Lord will not forsake,
 Nor leave him in his hands ;
The righteous will he not condemn,
 When he in judgment stands.
- 34 Wait on the Lord and keep his way,
 And thee exalt shall he
The land to hold ; the wicked's end
 Rejoicing thou shalt see.
- 35 I saw the wicked in his pride
 Spread like a well-grown tree :
- 36 I pass'd ; he was not : yea, I sought ;
 But found he could not be.
- 37 Mark thou the perfect, and behold
 The man of probity ;
Because that surely men of peace
 Shall have posterity.
- 38 But the transgressors every one
 Shall perish utterly ;
The wicked shall be rooted out
 Without posterity.

- 39 But the salvation of the just
Is from the Lord most high ;
He in the time of their distress
Shall strength to them supply.
- 40 The Lord shall help and set them free,
Set free from sinners' hand,
And hold them safe ; because in him
Their confidence doth stand.

XXXVIII.

- 1 IN thy great indignation, Lord,
My God, rebuke me not ;
Nor on me lay thy chastening hand
In thy displeasure hot.
- 2 For in me fast thine arrows stick,
Me wounding to the core ;
And thine avenging hand, O Lord,
Upon me presseth sore.
- 3 There is for thy great anger, Lord,
No health my flesh within ;
And in my bones there is no peace
By reason of my sin.
- 4 Because like waters o'er my head
My chastisements have flow'd ;
They heavier are than I can bear,
A weary, crushing load.

- 5 My wounds do stink, and are corrupt ;
 My folly makes it so ;
- 6 I humbled am and much bow'd down,
 All day I mourning go.
- 7 For a disease that burning is
 So fills my loins with pain,
 That in my weak and weary flesh
 No soundness doth remain.
- 8 So feeble and infirm am I,
 And broken am so sore,
 That through disquiet of my heart,
 I have been made to roar.
- 9 My heart is open, my desire,
 Lord, thou dost clearly see ;
 And of my soul the secret groans
 Are not unheard by thee.
- 10 My heart doth pant incessantly,
 My strength doth quite decay ;
 As for mine eyes, their wonted light
 Is from me gone away.
- 11 My lovers and my friends do stand
 At distance from my sore ;
 My kinsmen stand aloof that were
 Both near and dear before.
- 12 Yea, they that seek my life lay snares
 Who seek to do me wrong
 Speak things injurious, and deceits
 Imagine all day long.

-
- 13 As deaf, I hear not : and my mouth
Is closed like one that's dumb :
- 14 As one that cannot make reply
I silent have become.
- 15 For upon thee alone, O Lord,
My hope doth still attend ;
My God, when I on thee do call,
Thou wilt me answer send.
- 16 For I said, ' Hear me, lest they should
Rejoice o'er me with pride ;
And o'er me magnify themselves,
Whenas my foot doth slide.'
- 17 For I am near to fail ; my grief
Is ever me before :
- 18 And I confess my heavy guilt ;
My sin doth grieve me sore.
- 19 But many are mine enemies,
That are so causelessly ;
And they are greatly multiplied,
That hate me wrongfully.
- 20 And they for good that render ill,
As foes have me withstood ;
Yea, ev'n for this, because that I
Do follow what is good.
- 21 Forsake me not, O Lord ; my God,
Far from me never be.
- 22 O Lord, thou my salvation art ;
Haste to give help to me.

XXXIX.

- 1 I SAID, I will look to my ways,
Lest with my tongue I sin :
In sight of wicked men my mouth
With bridle I'll keep in.
- 2 With silence I as dumb became,
I did myself restrain
From speaking good : but then the more
Embitter'd was my pain.
- 3 My heart within me then wax'd hot,
And while I musing lay,
The fire did burn, and with my tongue
These words I then did say :
- 4 'Mine end and measure of my days,
O Lord, unto me show
What is the same ; that I thereby
My frailty well may know.
- 5 'Lo, thou my days on earth hast made
No longer than a span ;
Mine age as nothing in thy sight :
Mere breath is every man.
- 6 'Sure each man walks in a vain show ;
They vex themselves in vain :
He heaps up wealth, and doth not know
To whom it shall pertain.

- 7 'And now, O Lord, what wait I for ?
My hope is fix'd on thee.
- 8 Free me from all my trespasses,
The fool's scorn make not me.
- 9 'Dumb was I, opening not my mouth,
Because this work was thine.
- 10 Thy stroke take from me ; by the blow
Of thy hand I do pine.
- 11 'When man for his transgressions thou
Dost visit with thy ban,
Like moth thou dost his best destroy :
Mere breath is every man.
- 12 'Hold not thy peace, Lord, at my tears ;
Attend, O hear my prayer :
For but a passing guest am I,
As all my fathers were.
- 13 'O turn from me thy wrathful eyes ;
And cheerfulness restore
A little to my face, ere I
Go hence and be no more.'

XL.

- 1 I WAITED for the Lord my God,
And patiently did bear ;
At length he graciously inclined
His ear to hear my prayer.

- 2 He took me from a fearful pit,
 And from the miry clay ;
 And on a rock he set my feet,
 Establishing my way.
- 3 He put a new song in my mouth,
 Our God to magnify :
 Many shall see it, and shall fear,
 And on the Lord rely.
- 4 O blessèd is the man whose trust
 Upon the Lord relies ;
 Respecting not the proud, nor such
 As turn aside to lies.
- 5 O Lord my God, full many are
 The wonders thou hast done ;
 Thy gracious thoughts to usward far
 Above all thoughts are gone :

 (No one may be compared to thee)
 If them I would relate,
 And fitly praise, how should I fail !
 Their number is too great.
- 6 No sacrifice nor offer'd gift
 Didst thou at all desire ;
 This now I know : sin-offering thou,
 And burnt didst not require.
- 7 Then to the Lord these were my words,
 ' I come, behold and see ;
 Within the volume of the book
 It written is for me :

- 8 To do thy will I take delight,
O thou my God that art ;
Yea, that most holy law of thine
I have within my heart.'
- 9 Within the congregation great
I righteousness did preach ;
Lo, thou dost know, O Lord, that I
Did not refrain my speech.
- 10 I never did within my heart
Conceal thy righteousness ;
I thy salvation have declared
And shown thy faithfulness.
- Thy kindness, which most loving is,
I never have conceal'd ;
And to the congregation great
Thy truth I have reveal'd.
- 11 Thy tender mercies, Lord, from me
O do thou not restrain ;
Thy lovingkindness and thy truth
Let them me still maintain.
- 12 For evils compass me around
That cannot reckon'd be ;
And judgments upon me lay hold,
So that I cannot see.
- They more than hairs are on my head,
Thence is my heart dismay'd.
- 13 Be pleased, O Lord, to rescue me ;
Lord, hasten to mine aid.

- 14 Shamed and confounded be they all
That seek my soul to kill ;
Yea, let them backward driven be
And shamed, that wish me ill.
- 15 For a reward of this their shame
Confounded let them be,
That in this manner scoffing say
'Aha, aha !' to me.
- 16 O Lord, in thee let all be glad
And joy that seek for thee ;
Let them who thy salvation love
Say still, 'God blessed be !'
- 17 But I both poor and needy am ;
Come, Lord, and make no stay :
My help thou and redeemer art,
O Lord, make no delay.

X L I.

- 1 BLESSED is he that wisely doth
Consider the oppress'd ;
For when the time of trouble comes,
The Lord will give him rest.
- 2 God will him keep, yea, save alive ;
On earth he bless'd shall live ;
And to his enemies' desire
Thou wilt him not up give.

-
- 3 God will give strength when he doth lie
 On bed of sickness sore ;
 And from his couch of languishing
 To health will him restore.
- 4 I said, 'O Lord, do thou extend
 Thy mercy unto me ;
 O do thou heal my soul, because
 I have offended thee.'
- 5 Those that to me are enemies
 Of me do evil say,
'When shall he die, that so his name
 May perish quite away ?'
- 6 When one comes in to visit me,
 His heart with evil swells,
 Which when he goeth forth again
 With spiteful tongue he tells.
- 7 My haters jointly whispering,
 'Gainst me my hurt devise.
- 8 'An ill disease cleaves fast to him,
 He lies and shall not rise.'
- 9 Yea, ev'n mine own familiar friend
 On whom I did rely,
 Who ate my bread, ev'n he his heel
 Against me lifted high.
- 10 But, Lord, be merciful to me,
 And up again me raise,
 That I may justly them requite
 According to their ways.

- 11 By this I know that certainly
 I favour'd am by thee ;
If that my hateful enemy
 Do not exult o'er me.
- 12 But me in mine integrity
 Thou holdest by thine hand ;
Before thy face, most gracious Lord,
 For ever I shall stand.

XLII. AND XLIII.

- 1 LIKE as for living water-brooks
 The hart doth panting cry,
So pants my longing thirsty soul
 For thee, O God most high.
- 2 My soul for God, the living God,
 Doth thirst ; when shall I near
Unto thy countenance approach,
 Before God's face appear ?
- 3 My tears have unto me been meat
 Both in the night and day,
While all the time with mocking lips,
 'Where is thy God ?' they say.
- 4 Now is my soul pour'd out in me,
 When this I think upon ;
How with the gladsome multitudes
 I heretofore had gone :

With them into God's house I went
 With voice of joy and praise ;
 Yea, with the multitude that kept
 The solemn holy days.

- 5 Why art thou then cast down, my soul ?
 What should discourage thee ?
 And why, with vexing thoughts, art thou
 Disquieted in me ?

Still trust in God ; for him to praise
 Good cause I yet shall have :
 He of my count'nance is the health ;
 My God, that doth me save.

- 6 My God, how is my soul cast down !
 Thee therefore mind I will
 From Jordan and from Hermon's land,
 And ev'n from Mitzar hill.

- 7 At loud noise of thy water-spouts
 Deep calleth unto deep ;
 Thy waves roll on above my head,
 O'er me thy billows sweep.

- 8 His lovingkindness yet the Lord
 Command will in the day ;
 Meanwhile his song's with me by night :
 To God my life I pray.

- 9 And I will say to God my rock,
 ' Why me forgett'st thou so ?
 Why, by oppression of my foes,
 Thus mourning do I go ?'

- 10 As with a breaking in my bones
Foes flout me every day ;
The while to me, 'Where is thy God ?'
In mockery they say.
- 11 Why art thou then cast down, my soul ?
What should discourage thee ?
And why, with vexing thoughts, art thou
Disquieted in me ?

Still trust in God ; for him to praise
Good cause I yet shall have :
He of my count'nance is the health ;
My God, that doth me save.

- 1 MAINTAIN my cause, O God, against
Ungodly folk, judge me :
From the unjust and crafty man
Do thou my saviour be.
- 2 For thou the God art of my strength ;
Why am I cast off so ?
Why, by oppression of my foes,
Thus mourning do I go ?
- 3 O send thy light forth and thy truth ;
Let them be guides to me,
And bring me to thine holy hill,
Ev'n where thy dwellings be.

- 4 Then will I to God's altar go,
 To God, my chiefest joy :
Yea, God, my God, thy name to praise
 My harp I will employ.
- 5 Why art thou then cast down, my soul ?
 What should discourage thee ?
And why, with vexing thoughts, art thou
 Disquieted in me ?
- Still trust in God ; for him to praise
 Good cause I yet shall have :
He of my count'nance is the health ;
 My God, that doth me save.

XLIV.

- 1 O GOD, we with our ears have heard,
 Our fathers have us told,
What works thou in their days hadst done,
 Ev'n in the days of old.
- 2 Thy hand did drive the heathen out,
 And plant them in their stead ;
Their tribes thou sorely didst afflict,
 But them abroad didst spread.
- 3 For neither got their sword the land,
 Nor did their arm them save ;
But thy right hand, arm, countenance ;
 For God them favour gave.

- 4 Thou art my King : for Jacob, Lord,
 Deliv'rances command.
- 5 Through thee we shall push down our foes
 That do against us stand :
- Our adversaries we shall tread,
 For through thy name we're brave.
- 6 For in my bow I shall not trust,
 Nor shall my sword me save.
- 7 But from our foes thou hast us saved,
 Our haters put to shame.
- 8 In God we all the day do boast,
 And ever praise thy name.
- 9 But now we are cast off by thee,
 And us thou putt'st to shame ;
 And when our armies do go forth,
 Thou go'st not with the same.
- 10 Thou mak'st us from the enemy
 To fly disgraced and foil'd ;
 By those that hate us we are chased,
 And all our goods are spoil'd.
- 11 Like sheep, for meat thou gavest us ;
 'Mong heathen cast we be.
- 12 Thou didst for nought thy people sell ;
 Their price enrich'd not thee.
- 13 Thou mak'st us a reproach to be
 Unto our neighbours round ;
 Derision and a scorn are we
 To them that us surround.

-
- 14 A byword also thou dost us
 Among the heathen make ;
The people in contempt and spite
 At us their heads do shake.
- 15 So my confusion doth remain
 Before me every day ;
A blush of shame o'erspreads my face
 Which will not pass away.
- 16 For voice of him that doth reproach
 And speaketh blasphemy ;
By reason of the avenging foe
 And cruel enemy.
- 17 All this has come on us, yet we
 Have not forgotten thee ;
Nor falsely in thy covenant
 Behaved ourselves have we.
- 18 Our heart is not turn'd back from thee,
 Our steps have never stray'd ;
- 19 Though in the desert us thou brak'st
 And cover'dst with death's shade.
- 20 If we God's name forgot, or stretch'd
 To a strange God our hands,
- 21 Shall not God search this out ? for he
 Heart's secrets understands.
- 22 Yea, for thy sake we're kill'd all day,
 Counted as slaughter sheep.
- 23 Rise, Lord, cast us not ever off ;
 Awake, why dost thou sleep ?

- 24 O wherefore hidest thou thy face,
Forgett'st our cause distress'd
25 And our oppression ? For our soul
Is to the dust down press'd :

- Our belly also on the earth
Fast cleaving hold doth take.
26 Rise for our help and us redeem,
Ev'n for thy mercies' sake.

X L V.

- 1 MY heart is boiling o'er
With good things for a song :
I speak the things that I have made
Which to the King belong.

My tongue shall be as quick
His honour to indite,
As is the pen of any scribe
That useth fast to write.

- 2 Thou fairest of all men,
Grace in thy lips doth flow :
And therefore blessings evermore
On thee doth God bestow.

- 3 Thy sword gird on thy thigh,
Thou that art most of might ;
Appear in dreadful majesty,
And in thy glory bright.

-
- 4 For meekness, truth, and right,
Ride in thy warlike state ;
And thy right hand shall teach to thee
Things terrible and great.
- 5 Sharp are thine arrows fell—
The people are brought low—
Right through into the very heart
Of the King's foes they go.
- 6 For ever and for aye
Doth stand thy throne of might ;
The sceptre of thy kingdom is
A sceptre that is right.
- 7 Thou lov'st right, hatest ill ;
Therefore thy God we see
Above thy fellows with the oil
Of joy anointed thee.
- 8 Myrrh, aloes, cassia
Send forth a fragrant smell ;
Hark, from the ivory palaces
Glad strains of music swell.
- 9 Kings' daughters are among
Thy ladies' lovely band ;
Upon thy right hand doth the queen
In gold of Ophir stand.
- 10 O daughter, take good heed,
Incline, and give good ear ;
Thou must forget thy kindred all,
And father's house most dear.

- 11 Thy beauty to the King
Shall then delightful be ;
And do thou truly honour him,
Because thy Lord is he.
- 12 The daughter then of Tyre
There with a gift shall be ;
And all the wealthy of the land
Shall make their suit to thee.
- 13 The daughter of the King
All glorious goes within ;
And with embroideries of gold
Her garments wrought have been.
- 14 She cometh to the King
In robes with needle wrought ;
The virgins that do follow her
Shall unto thee be brought.
- 15 They shall be brought with joy
And mirth on every side,
Into the palace of the King ;
And there they shall abide.
- 16 Now in thy fathers' stead,
May children round thee stand ;
Whom thou mayst well for governors
Set up throughout the land.
- 17 Thy glory sung by me
Race after race shall know ;
Therefore the people evermore
Thy praises forth shall show.

XLVI.

- 1 GOD is our refuge and our strength,
 In straits a present aid.
2 Therefore although the earth be moved
 We will not be afraid,

- Though hills amidst the seas be cast ;
3 Though waters roaring make,
 And troubled be ; yea, though the hills
 By swelling seas do shake.

 The Lord of hosts upon our side
 Doth constantly remain ;
 Yea, Jacob's God our refuge is
 Us safely to maintain.

- 4 A fountain is whose gentle streams
 Make glad God's city fair,
 The holy place ; for the Most High
 Hath fix'd his dwelling there.

- 5 God in the midst of her doth dwell,
 No power shall make her move :
 The Lord to her an helper will,
 And that right early, prove.

- 6 The heathen raged on every side,
 The kingdoms shook around ;
 His dreadful voice he utter'd forth,
 Earth trembled at the sound.

- 7 The Lord of Hosts upon our side
 Doth constantly remain ;
 Yea, Jacob's God our refuge is
 Us safely to maintain.
- 8 Come and behold what mighty works
 Have by the Lord been wrought :
 Come, see what awful havoc he
 Upon the earth hath brought.
- 9 Unto the ends of all the earth
 Wars into peace he turns ;
 The bow he breaks, the spear he cuts,
 In fire the chariot burns.
- 10 Be still, and know that I am God ;
 Among the heathen I
 Am lifted up ; upon the earth
 I'm lifted up on high.
- 11 The Lord of Hosts upon our side
 Doth constantly remain ;
 Yea, Jacob's God our refuge is
 Us safely to maintain.

XLVII.

- 1 ALL people, clap your hands ; to God
 With voice of triumph shout ;
- 2 For dreadful is the Lord most high,
 Great King the earth throughout.

-
- 3 He surely 'neath us shall subdue
 The heathen people all ;
 And he shall make the nations round
 Under our feet to fall.
- 4 The lot of our inheritance
 Choose out for us he shall ;
 The land, the pride of Jacob's race,
 Whom he has loved so well.
- 5 God is gone up with trumpets' sound,
 And shouts both loud and long.
- 6 Sing praise to God, sing praise. Praise ye
 Our King with cheerful song.
- 7 For God is King of all the earth ;
 Sing praise to him alone.
- 8 God rules the nations ; God on high
 Sits on his holy throne.
- 9 The princes of the nations round
 To Abram's God draw nigh ;
 Because earth's shields are only his,
 He's lifted up on high.

XLVIII.

- 1 GREAT is the Lord, and greatly he
 Is to be honour'd still,
 Within the city of our God,
 Upon his holy hill.

- 2 Mount Zion stands most beautiful,
The joy of all the land ;
The city of the mighty King
On her north side doth stand.
- 3 The Lord within her palaces
Is known for a defence ;
- 4 For, lo, the kings to council came,
They pass'd in masses dense.
- 5 They saw ; they wonder'd : fear them seized
6 Like woman's pain. Then pale,
7 They fled ; as when thou scatterest
Great fleets before thy gale.
- 8 Ev'n as we heard of times of old
We've seen in our own day,
Within God's city, which his hand
Establish will for aye ;
- Yea, in the city of the Lord
Of hosts our eyes have seen.
- 9 Within thy temple, Lord, our thoughts
Of thy great grace have been.
- 10 O Lord, according to thy name,
Through all the earth's thy praise ;
And thy right hand, O Lord, is full
Of righteousness always.
- 11 Because thy judgments are made known,
Let Zion Mount rejoice ;
Of Judah let the daughters all
Send forth a cheerful voice.

- 12 Walk about Zion and go round,
The high towers thereof tell ;
13 Consider ye her palaces,
And mark her bulwarks well ;

That ye may tell posterity.
14 For this God doth abide
Our God for evermore ; he will
Ev'n unto death us guide.

XLIX.

- 1 HEAR this, all people, and give ear,
All in the world that dwell ;
2 Both high and low, both rich and poor.
3 My mouth doth wisdom tell :

My heart shall knowledge meditate.
4 I will incline mine ear
Unto a song, and on the harp
Will sing : attend and hear.

5 Though fallen on dark and evil days,
Why should I fear or doubt ?
Though ill men's wiles on every side
Do compass me about.

6 Who trust in riches, boast in them
7 Cannot in any way
Redeem a brother ; nor for him
To God a ransom pay.

- 8 (Soul-ransom is too high for them,
 It fails, it cannot be)
- 9 That still he should for ever live,
 And not corruption see.
- 10 Yea, he shall see it. Wise men die
 And brutish fools also
Do perish, and their wealth, when dead,
 To other men must go.
- 11 Their inward thought is that their house
 Shall stand through ages all :
The lands they have with pain acquired
 By their own names they call.
- 12 So man, with all his honour crown'd,
 That does not understand,
Is like the beasts put under him
 That perish from the land.
- 13 So full are men of confidence,
 Such is their stupid way ;
And their posterity approve
 Whate'er they fondly say.
- 14 Like sheep they in the grave are laid,
 And death shall them devour ;
And in the morning upright men
 Shall over them have power.
- Their beauty turneth soon to dust ;
 The grave they'll never leave.
- 15 But from its power God will me free,
 For he shall me receive.

- 16 Be thou not then afraid when one
Enrich'd thou mayest see,
Nor when the glory of his house
Advanced is mightily.
- 17 For he shall carry nothing hence
When death his days doth end ;
Nor shall his glory after him
Into the grave descend.
- 18 Although his own soul he did bless
Whilst he on earth did live ;
(And when thou to thyself dost well,
Men will thee praises give).
- 19 When comes the time he too must go
To join his fathers' line,
Where in the cold and silent tomb
The light doth never shine.
- 20 So man, with all his honour crown'd,
That doth not understand,
Is like the beasts put under him,
That perish from the land.

L.

- 1 THE mighty God, the Lord,
Hath spoken and did call
The earth, from rising of the sun
To where he hath his fall.

- 2 From out of Zion hill,
 Which of excellency
And beauty the perfection is,
 God hath shined gloriously.
- 3 (Let God not fail to come ;
 Let him not silent be.)
Before him fire devour'd ; in midst
 Of tempest great went he.
- 4 Unto the heavens clear
 He from above did call,
And to the earth likewise ; that he
 May judge his people all.
- 5 ' Together let my saints
 Unto me gather'd be,
Those that by sacrifice have made
 A covenant with me.'
- 6 The heavens obedient then
 His judgment did proclaim,
That God will now his people judge
 Who call upon his name.
- 7 ' My people Israel hear,
 Speak will I from on high,
Against thee I will testify ;
 God, ev'n thy God, am I.
- 8 ' I for thy sacrifice
 No blame will on thee lay,
Nor for burnt-off'rings, which to me
 Thou offer'dst every day.

-
- 9 'I'll take no calf or goats
From house or fold of thine :
- 10 For beasts of forests, cattle all
On thousand hills are mine.
- 11 'The fowls on mountains high
Are all to me well known ;
Wild beasts which in the fields do lie,
Ev'n they are all mine own.
- 12 'Then, if I hungry were,
I would not tell it thee ;
Because the world, and all that is
Therein, belongs to me.
- 13 'Will I eat flesh of bulls ?
Or goats' blood drink will I ?
- 14 Thanks offer then to God, and pay
Thy vows to the Most High.
- 15 'And call upon me when
In trouble thou shalt be ;
I will deliver thee, and thou
Shalt truly honour me.'
- 16 But to the wicked man
God saith, 'Wilt thou declare
My righteous laws ? My covenants
To utter wilt thou dare ?
- 17 'Sith thou instruction hat'st
Which should thy ways direct,
And sith my words dost cast behind
Thy back, and dost reject.

- 18 'When thou a thief didst see,
With him thou didst agree ;
And with adulterers in guilt
A partner thou wouldst be.
- 19 'Thou giv'st thy mouth to ill,
Thy tongue deceit doth frame :
20 Against thy brother thou dost speak,
Thy mother's son dost shame.
- 21 'Because I silence kept,
While thou these things hast wrought,
That I was altogether like
Thyself, has been thy thought.
- 'Yet I will thee reprove,
And set before thine eyes,
All rank'd in order thy misdeeds,
Thy slanders and thy lies.
- 22 'Now ye that God forget,
Consider carefully,
Lest I in pieces tear you all,
And none can set you free.
- 23 'That man me glorifies
Who offers thankful praise ;
To him I'll God's salvation show
Who orders right his ways.'

LI.

- 1 AFTER thy lovingkindness, Lord,
Have mercy upon me ;
For thy compassion great blot out
All mine iniquity.
- 2 Me cleanse from sin, and thoroughly wash
From mine iniquity.
- 3 For my transgressions I confess,
My sin I ever see.
- 4 'Gainst thee, thee only, have I sinn'd,
In thy sight done this ill ;
That when thou speak'st thou mayst be just
And clear in judging still.
- 5 Behold, I in iniquity
Was form'd the womb within ;
My mother also me conceived
In guiltiness and sin.
- 6 Behold, thou in the inward parts
With truth delighted art ;
And wisdom thou shalt make me know
Within the hidden part.
- 7 Do thou with hyssop sprinkle me,
I shall be cleansed so ;
Yea, wash thou me, and then I shall
Be whiter than the snow.

- 8 Of gladness and of joyfulness
 Make me to hear the voice ;
 That so these very bones which thou
 Hast broken may rejoice.
- 9 All mine iniquities blot out,
 Thy face hide from my sin.
- 10 Make me a clean heart, Lord, renew
 A spirit free within.
- 11 Cast me not from thy sight, nor take
 Thy spirit good from me.
- 12 Restore me thy salvation's joy,
 Support with spirit free.
- 13 Then will I teach thy ways unto
 Those that transgressors be ;
 And those that sinners are shall be
 Converted unto thee.
- 14 O God, of my salvation God,
 Me from blood-guiltiness
 Set free : then shall my tongue aloud
 Sing of thy righteousness.
- 15 Then open thou my lips, O Lord,
 And teach me holy lays ;
 That with a joyful mouth I may
 Show forth thy worthy praise.
- 16 For thou desir'st not sacrifice,
 Else would I give it thee ;
 Nor wilt thou with burnt-offering
 At all delighted be.

-
- 17 A broken spirit is to God
 A pleasing sacrifice ;
 A broken and a contrite heart,
 Lord, thou wilt not despise.
- 18 Show kindness and do good, O Lord,
 To Zion thine own hill ;
 The walls of thy Jerusalem
 Build up of thy good will.
- 19 Then righteous off'rings shall thee please,
 And off'rings burnt which they
 With whole burnt-off'rings and with calves
 Shall on thine altar lay.

LII.

- 1 WHY dost thou boast, O mighty man,
 Of mischief and of ill ?
 The goodness of Almighty God
 Endureth ever still.
- 2 Thy tongue tells out the cruel things
 Thy bad heart did devise ;
 And like a razor sharpen'd keen
 It cuts the poor with lies.
- 3 Thou lovest evil more than good ;
 To lies thy heart has clung :
- 4 Thou lovest all-devouring words,
 O thou deceitful tongue.

- 5 So God shall thee destroy for aye,
 Thy tent tear down outright ;
 And from the land of living men
 He shall thee root out quite.
- 6 This shall the just behold with awe :
 But him they 'll mock and say,
- 7 ' Ha, see him now ; behold the man
 That made not God his stay,

 ' But placed his boastful confidence
 In his abundant pelf ;
 And in his own base wickedness
 Took strength unto himself.'
- 8 But I am in the house of God
 Like to an olive green :
 My confidence for ever hath
 Upon God's mercy been.
- 9 Because of what thy hand hath done,
 I 'll ever give thee praise ;
 I 'll wait upon thy gracious name
 Before thy saints always.

LIII.

- 1 THAT there is not a God, the fool
 Doth in his heart conclude :
 They are corrupt, their works are vile,
 Not one of them does good.

-
- 2 The Lord upon the sons of men
 From heaven did cast his eyes,
 To see if any one there was
 That sought God and was wise.
- 3 They altogether filthy are ;
 They all are backward gone :
 And there is none that doeth good,
 No, not so much as one.
- 4 These workers of iniquity,
 Do they not know at all,
 That they my people eat as bread,
 And on God do not call ?
- 5 Even then they were afraid, and stood
 With trembling, all dismay'd,
 Whereas there was no cause at all
 Why they should be afraid.
- For God his bones that thee besieged
 Hath scatter'd all abroad ;
 Thou hast confounded them, for they
 Are all despised of God.
- 6 Let Israel's help from Zion come :
 When back the Lord shall bring
 His captives, Jacob shall rejoice
 And Israel loud shall sing.

L I V.

- 1 SAVE me, O God, by thy great name,
 And judge me by thy strength :
- 2 My prayers hear, O God ; give ear
 Unto my words at length.
- 3 For they that strangers are to me
 Do up against me rise ;
 Oppressors seek my soul, and God
 Set not before their eyes.
- 4 See, God my helper is. The Lord
 Is to my soul a stay.
- 5 Repay my foes their ill. Cut them
 In thy truth clean away.
- 6 My thankful off'rings freely given
 Shall feed thine altar's flame ;
 And since 'tis good, I'll ever sing
 High praises to thy name.
- 7 For he hath me deliver'd safe
 From all adversities ;
 And his desire mine eye hath seen
 Upon mine enemies.

L V.

- 1 LORD, hear my prayer ; hide not thyself
From my entreating voice :
- 2 Attend and hear me ; in my plaint
I mourn and make a noise.
- 3 For cries of enemies, and for
Lewd men's oppression great :
On me they cast iniquity,
And they in wrath me hate.
- 4 Sore pain'd within me is my heart ;
Death's terrors on me fall.
- 5 I tremble, and a horrid dread
Has me o'erwhelm'd withal.
- 6 'O that I like a dove had wings,'
Said I, ' then would I flee
Far hence, that I might find a place
Where I at rest might be.
- 7 'Lo, then far off I wander would
And in the desert stay ;
- 8 From windy storm and tempest I
Would haste to 'scape away.'
- 9 O Lord, on them destruction bring,
And do their tongues divide ;
For in the city violence
And strife I have espied.

- 10 They day and night upon the walls
 Do go about it round :
 There mischief is, and sorrow there
 In midst of it is found.
- 11 Abundant wickedness there is
 Within her inward part ;
 And from her streets deceitfulness
 And guile do not depart.
- 12 He was no foe that me reproach'd,
 Then that I could have borne ;
 I would have hid myself, if one
 That hated me did scorn.
- 13 But thou ! my comrade, whom I knew,
 My own familiar friend ;
14 With whom I oft sweet counsel took,
 Up to God's house did wend.
- 15 Let death surprise them, let them go
 In full strength down to hell :
 For wickedness doth much abound
 Among them where they dwell.
- 16 I'll call on God : God will me save.
17 I'll pray, and make a noise,
 At evening, morning, and at noon,
 And he shall hear my voice.
- 18 From stress of battle sore my soul
 He hath in peace set free :
 For with a mighty force my foes
 Came up to fight with me.

-
- 19 The Lord whose throne is fix'd of old
 To humble them will hear :
 Because they never changes have,
 Of God they have no fear.
- 20 On his own friends, who lived with him
 At peace, his hands he laid ;
 And shamelessly did violate
 The covenant he made.
- 21 Smoother than butter are his words,
 While in his heart is war ;
 Softer his speeches are than oil,
 And yet drawn swords they are.
- 22 Cast thou thy burden on the Lord,
 And he shall thee sustain ;
 Yea, he shall cause the righteous man
 Unshaken to remain.
- 23 But thou, O Lord my God, those men
 In justice shalt o'erthrow,
 And in destruction's dungeon dark
 At last shalt lay them low.
- The bloody and deceitful men
 Shall not live half their days :
 But upon thee with confidence
 I will depend always.

LVI.

- 1 SHOW mercy, Lord, to me, for man
 Would swallow me outright ;
 He me oppresseth, while he doth
 Against me daily fight.
- 2 They daily would me swallow up
 That hate me spitefully ;
 For they be many that do fight
 Against me haughtily.
- 3 What time I fear I'll trust in thee.
4 In God I'll praise his word :
 I will not fear ; what can flesh do ?
 My trust is in the Lord.
- 5 Each day they wrest my words ; their thoughts
 'Gainst me are all for ill.
- 6 They meet, they lurk, they mark my steps,
 Waiting my soul to kill.
- 7 Weigh'd in thy righteous balances
 Be all their evil past ;
 O God, with just displeasure down
 Do thou the people cast.
- 8 All my sad wanderings by thee
 Are number'd ; all my tears
 Are in thy bottle : thou hast mark'd
 My hidden griefs and fears.

- 9 My foes shall, when I cry, turn back ;
I know, God is for me :
- 10 Through God his word I'll praise ; his word
Through his grace praised may be.
- 11 In God I trust ; I will not fear ;
What can man do to me ?
- 12 Thy vows upon me are, O God,
I'll render praise to thee.
- 13 My soul thou, Lord, from death hast saved,
My foot from falls kept free,
To walk before thee in the light
Of those that living be.

L V I I.

- 1 BE merciful to me, O God ;
Thy mercy unto me
Do thou extend ; because my soul
Doth put her trust in thee.
- Yea, in the shadow of thy wings
For safety I will stay,
Until these sad calamities
Do wholly pass away.
- 2 My cry I will cause to ascend
Unto the Lord most high ;
To God who with his bounteous hand
Doth all my wants supply.

- 3 From heaven he shall send down, and me
From his reproach defend,
That would devour me ; God his truth
And mercy forth shall send.
- 4 My soul in midst of lions is,
I fierce ones live among ;
Men's sons, whose teeth are spears and darts,
And a sharp sword their tongue.
- 5 Be thou exalted very high
Above the heavens, O God ;
And let thy glory be advanced
O'er all the earth abroad.
- 6 My soul was bow'd when they their net
To snare my steps had laid :
But they are fall'n into the pit
Which for me they had made.
- 7 My heart is fix'd, my heart is fix'd,
O God ; I'll sing and praise.
- 8 My glory, wake ; wake, psalt'ry, harp ;
Myself I'll early raise.
- 9 I'll praise thee 'mong the people, Lord ;
'Mong nations sing will I ;
- 10 For great to heaven thy mercy is,
Thy truth is to the sky.
- 11 Be thou exalted very high
Above the heavens, O God ;
And let thy glory be advanced
O'er all the earth abroad.

LVIII.

- 1 Do ye when set in judgment seat
Indeed speak righteousness?
And do ye judge the sons of men
In truth and uprightness?
- 2 Yea, wickedness within your hearts
Ye practise every day;
And violence instead of truth
Is what to men you weigh.
- 3 The evil doers are estranged
Ev'n from their very birth;
And liars go astray as soon
As they appear on earth.
- 4 Unto a serpent's poison like
Their poison doth appear;
Yea, they are like the adder deaf,
That closely stops the ear.
- 5 That so she may escape the arts
Which subtle charmers ply;
And charm he ne'er so cunningly,
May all his skill defy.
- 6 Their teeth, O God, within their mouth,
Break thou in pieces small;
The great teeth break thou out, O Lord,
Of these young lions all.

- 7 Let them like waters melt away
 Which downward still do flow :
Let all their arrows pointless fly,
 When they do bend their bow.
- 8 Like to a snail that melts away,
 Let each of them be gone ;
Like woman's birth untimely, that
 They never see the sun.
- 9 He'll scatter them before your pots
 Can feel the fiery glow,
Both fresh and burning : as with storm,
 He will them quite o'erthrow.
- 10 The righteous, when he vengeance sees,
 Shall be right joyful then ;
The righteous one shall wash his feet
 In blood of wicked men.
- 11 That men may say, ' Some fruit there is
 Of righteous living still ;
Doubtless there is a God to judge,
 On earth to work his will.'

LIX.

- 1 My God, from all mine enemies
 To me deliv'rance send ;
From those that up against me rise
 O do thou me defend.

-
- 2 Do thou deliver me from those
 That work iniquity ;
 And give me safety from the men
 That shed blood cruelly.
- 3 For, lo, they for my soul lay wait :
 The mighty do combine
 Against me, Lord ; not for my fault
 Or any sin of mine.
- 4 They run, and, without fault in me,
 Themselves do ready make :
 Awake to meet me with thy help ;
 And do thou notice take.
- 5 Thou therefore, O Lord God of hosts,
 Wake, God of Israël,
 To visit heathen all : spare none
 That wickedly rebel.
- 6 At evening they go to and fro ;
 They make great noise and sound,
 Howling like dogs, the while they walk
 About the city round.
- 7 Behold, they with their mouth do prate,
 And in their lips are words :
 For they do say thus, ' Who is he
 That now doth hear our words ? '
- 8 But thou, O Lord, shalt laugh at them,
 And all the heathen mock.
- 9 My strength, I'll always wait on thee ;
 For God is my high rock.
- 1

-
- 10 He of my mercy that is God
 Betimes shall come to me ;
 Upon mine enemies he shall
 Mine heart's wish let me see.
- 11 Them slay not, lest my folk forget ;
 But scatter them abroad
 By thy strong power ; and bring them down,
 O thou our shield and God.
- 12 For their mouth's sin and for the words
 That from their lips do fly,
 Let them be taken in their pride ;
 Because they curse and lie.
- 13 In wrath consume them, them consume,
 That so they may not be :
 And that in Jacob God doth rule
 To earth's ends let them see.
- 14 At eve let them go to and fro,
 Making great noise and sound,
 Howling like dogs, the while they walk
 About the city round.
- 15 And let them wander up and down
 Seeking for food in vain ;
 The long night through let them seek food,
 And starving still remain.
- 16 But of thy power I'll sing aloud,
 At morn thy mercy praise ;
 For thou to me my refuge wast,
 My tower in troublous days.

- 17 O God, thou art my strength, I will
 Sing praises unto thee ;
 For God is my defence, a God
 Of mercy unto me.

LX.

- 1 O LORD, thou hast rejected us
 And scatter'd us abroad ;
 Most justly hast thou been displeased ;
 Return to us, O God.
- 2 The earth to tremble thou hast made ;
 Therein didst breaches make :
 Do thou thereof the breaches heal,
 Because the land doth shake
- 3 Unto thy people thou hard things
 Hast show'd, and on them sent ;
 And thou hast caused thy folk to drink
 Wine of astonishment.
- 4 To them that fear thee, Lord of hosts,
 Thou didst a banner show ;
 A signal flag to rally round,
 And 'scape the cruel bow.
- 5 That thy belovèd people may
 Deliver'd be from thrall,
 Save with the power of thy right hand,
 And hear me when I call.

- 6 God in his sanctuary spake ;
 Herein I will take pleasure :
 Shechem I will divide, and forth
 Will Succoth's valley measure.
- 7 Gilead I claim as mine by right,
 Manasseh mine shall be ;
 Ephraim is of mine head the helm ;
 Judah, my sceptre he.
- 8 Moab's my washing-pot ; my shoe
 I'll over Edom throw ;
 Over the land of Philistines
 I will in triumph go.
- 9 O who is he will bring me to
 A city fortified ?
 O who is he that to the land
 Of Edom will me guide ?
- 10 Who will do this ? Alas ! For us
 Cast off, O God, hast thou,
 And when our hosts go forth to war,
 Thou art not with them now.
- 11 Help us against our enemies,
 For human help is vain.
- 12 Through God, who shall tread down our foes,
 We'll fight with might and main.

LXI.

- 1 O GOD, give ear unto my cry ;
Unto my prayer attend.
From th' utmost corner of the land
My cry to thee I'll send.
- 2 What time my heart is overwhelm'd
And in perplexity,
Do thou me lead unto the rock
That is too high for me.
- 3 For thou hast for my refuge been
A shelter by thy power ;
And for defence against my foes
Thou hast been a strong tower.
- 4 Within thy tabernacle I
For ever will abide ;
And under covert of thy wings
With confidence me hide.
- 5 For thou the vows that I did make,
O Lord my God, didst hear :
Thou hast given me the heritage
Of those thy name that fear.
- 6 A life prolong'd for many days
Thou to the king shalt give ;
Like many generations be
The years which he shall live.

-
- 7 He in God's presence on his throne
 For ever shall remain :
 Thy loving grace and faithfulness
 Prepare him to sustain.
- 8 And so I will through all my life
 Sing praise unto thy name ;
 That having made my vows, I may
 Each day perform the same.

LXII.

- 1 BE still, my soul ; wait patiently ;
 Since God is on thy side,
 From whence alone deliv'rance comes,
 Thou quiet mayst abide.
- 2 He only my salvation is,
 And my strong rock is he :
 He only is my sure defence ;
 Much moved I shall not be.
- 3 How long will ye assail a man,
 Seek to destroy him all ?
 And make him like a tottering fence,
 Or like a bowing wall ?
- 4 To cast him down from his high place
 They constantly devise :
 With mouth they bless ; but inwardly
 They curse, still loving lies.

-
- 5 Be still, my soul ; wait patiently ;
 Since God is on thy side,
 On whom alone my hope is fixed,
 Thou quiet mayst abide.
- 6 He only my salvation is,
 And my strong rock is he ;
 He only is my sure defence :
 Much moved I shall not be.
- 7 In God my glory still is placed,
 And my salvation sure ;
 In God the rock is of my strength,
 My refuge most secure.
- 8 Ye people, place ye at all times
 In him your confidence ;
 Before him pour ye out your heart :
 God is our sure defence.
- 9 Surely mean men are vanity,
 And great men are a snare ;
 Laid in the balance, they are found
 Together light as air.
- 10 Trust ye not in oppressive ways,
 In robbery be not vain ;
 On wealth set not your hearts, whenas
 Increased much is your gain.
- 11 God hath it spoken once to me,
 Twice have I heard the word ;
 That all the power in heaven and earth
 Belongeth to the Lord.

- 12 Yea, mercy also unto thee
 Belongs, O Lord, alone ;
 For thou according to his work
 Rewardest every one.


LXIII.

- 1 LORD, thee my God I'll early seek :
 My soul doth thirst for thee ;
 My flesh longs in a dry parch'd land,
 Wherein no waters be :
- 2 That I thy power may behold
 And brightness of thy face,
 As I have seen thee heretofore
 Within thy holy place.
- 3 Since better is thy love than life,
 My lips thee praise shall give.
- 4 I in thy name will lift my hands
 And bless thee while I live.
- 5 Even as with marrow and with fat
 My soul well fill'd shall be ;
 Then shall my mouth with joyful lips
 Sing praises unto thee :
- 6 When I do thee upon my bed
 Remember with delight,
 And when on thee I meditate
 In watches of the night.

- 7 In shadow of thy wings I'll joy ;
Thou hast me help'd of old.
- 8 My soul thee follows hard ; and me
Thy right hand doth uphold.
- 9 To depths of earth they down shall go
That seek my soul to slay.
- 10 They to the sword's edge shall be given ;
And made the jackal's prey.
- 11 Yet shall the king in God rejoice,
And all shall glory then,
That swear by him ; but stopp'd shall be
The mouth of lying men.

L X I V.

- 1 WHEN I to thee my prayer make,
Lord, to my voice give ear ;
My life save from the enemy
Of whom I stand in fear.
- 2 Me from their secret counsel hide
Who do live wickedly ;
From insurrection of those men
That work iniquity :
- 3 Who do their tongues with malice whet,
And make them cut like swords ;
In whose bent bows are arrows set,
Ev'n sharp and bitter words :

- 4 That they may at the innocent
 In secret take their aim ;
 Yea, suddenly they shoot at them ;
 They fear not thy great name.
- 5 In ill encourage they themselves ;
 How they their snares may lay
 Among themselves they do devise :
 ‘ Who shall them see ? ’ they say.
- 6 They seek out evil, and fulfil
 Whate’er they searching find :
 Their inward thought is close conceal’d,
 And very deep their mind.
- 7 God shall an arrow shoot at them,
 And wound them suddenly :
- 8 So their own tongue shall them confound ;
 All who them see shall flee.
- 9 And on all men a fear shall fall ;
 God’s work they shall forth tell :
 And of his doing in the earth
 They shall consider well.
- 10 In God the righteous shall rejoice,
 And trust upon his might ;
 Yea, they shall greatly glory all
 That are in heart upright.
- 

L X V.

- 1 PRAISE waits for thee in Zion, Lord,
To thee vows paid shall be.
- 2 O thou that hearer art of prayer,
All flesh shall come to thee.
- 3 Iniquities against me do
Prevail ; but I will pray :
And as for our transgressions, thou
Shalt purge them all away.
- 4 Blest is the man whom thou dost choose
And mak'st approach to thee ;
That he within thy courts, O Lord,
May still a dweller be.
- We surely shall be satisfied
With thy abundant grace,
And with the goodness of thy house,
Ev'n of thy holy place.
- 5 O God of our salvation, thou
Hast help'd us wondrously,
Who art the hope of all the ends
Of earth and farthest sea.
- 6 Who being girt with power, sets fast
By his great strength the hills.
- 7 Who noise of seas, noise of their waves,
And people's tumult stills.

- 8 Earth's utmost dwellers tell with awe
 The wonders thou hast done ;
 They praise thee where the morning breaks,
 And by the setting sun.
- 9 The earth thou visitest with rain ;
 Enriching with the flow
 Of God's full flood the ground prepared
 Abundant corn to grow.
- 10 Her furrows thou with rain dost fill,
 Her ridges smoothly press ;
 Thou mak'st her soft with fruitful showers,
 Her springing thou dost bless.
- 11 So thou the year most plenteously
 Dost with thy goodness crown ;
 And all thy paths abundantly
 On us drop fatness down.
- 12 Yea, ev'n the pastures fatness drop,
 Far in the desert wide ;
 The little hills do gird themselves
 With joy on every side.
- 13 All clothed with flocks the pastures be,
 The vales with corn are clad ;
 And now they shout and sing to thee,
 For thou hast made them glad.

LXVI.

- 1 ALL lands to God in joyful sounds,
Aloft your voices raise.
- 2 Sing forth the honour of his name,
And glorious make his praise.
- 3 Say unto God, 'How terrible
In all thy works art thou !
Through thy great power thy foes to thee
Shall be constrain'd to bow.
- 4 All on the earth shall worship thee ;
They shall thy praise proclaim
In songs ; they shall sing cheerfully
Unto thy holy name.'
- 5 Come, and the works that God hath wrought
With admiration see ;
In his deeds to the sons of men,
Most terrible is he.
- 6 Into dry land the sea he turn'd
And they a passage had ;
Ev'n marching through the flood on foot,
There we in him were glad.
- 7 He ruleth ever by his power ;
His eyes the nations try :
O let not the rebellious ones
Lift up themselves on high.

- 8 Ye people, bless our God : aloud
 The voice speak of his praise ;
9 Our soul in life who safe preserves,
 Our foot from falling stays.
- 10 For thou hast proved and tried us, Lord,
 As silver is assay'd ;
11 Hast made us captive, and upon
 Our loins hast burdens laid.
- 12 Thou hast let men ride o'er our heads :
 Through fire and water we
 Did pass ; but thou hast brought us out,
 And set us safe and free.
- 13 I 'll bring burnt-off'rings to thy house ;
 To thee my vows I 'll pay
14 Which my lips utter'd, my mouth spake
 When trouble on me lay.
- 15 Burnt sacrifices of fat rams
 With incense I will bring ;
 Of bullocks and of goats I will
 Present an offering.
- 16 All that fear God, come, hear ; I 'll tell
 What he did for my soul.
17 I with my mouth unto him cried,
 My tongue did him extol.
- 18 Now, had my heart been set on sin,
 The Lord would not have heard :
19 But verily God hath unto
 My prayer had regard.

- 20 O let the Lord, our gracious God,
For ever blessed be,
Who hath not turn'd my prayer from him,
Nor yet his grace from me.

LXVII.

- 1 LORD, bless and pity us,
Shine on us with thy face ;
2 That earth thy way and nations all
May know thy saving grace.
- 3 Let people praise thee, Lord ;
Let people all thee praise.
4 O let the nations all be glad ;
In songs their voices raise.
- Thou 'lt justly people judge ;
On earth rule nations all.
5 Let people praise thee, Lord ; let them
Praise thee, both great and small.
- 6 The earth her fruit shall yield ;
Our God shall blessing send.
7 God shall us bless ; men shall him fear
Unto earth's utmost end.

LXVIII

- 1 LET God arise, let those that are
 His en'mies scatter'd be ;
 And let all those that do him hate
 Before his presence flee.
- 2 As smoke is driven, so drive thou them ;
 As fire melts wax away,
 Before God's face let wicked men
 So perish and decay.
- 3 But let the righteous folk be glad ;
 Let them before God's sight
 Be very joyful ; yea, let them
 Rejoice with all their might.
- 4 Sing unto God, by his name Yah,
 Prepare for him a way ;
 As through the wilderness he rides,
 Rejoice and loudly play.
- 5 Because the Lord a father is
 Unto the fatherless ;
 God is the widow's judge, within
 His place of holiness.
- 6 God brings the solitary home,
 And breaks the captives' bands
 And prospers them : but rebels dwell
 In waste and thirsty lands.

-
- 7 O God, what time thou didst go forth
Before thy folks' array ;
And when through the great wilderness
Thou mad'st thy glorious way.
- 8 Then at God's presence shook the earth,
From heaven great rain-drops fell ;
This Sinai shook before the Lord,
The God of Israël.
- 9 O God, thou to thine heritage
Didst send a plenteous rain,
Whereby thou, when it weary was,
Didst raise it and sustain.
- 10 Thy congregation then did make
Their habitation there :
In that good land which for thy poor
Thou kindly didst prepare.
- 11 The Lord gave them the victory ;
Swift sped the news abroad ;
And bands of Israel's maidens then
Sang praise to Israel's God.
- 12 The kings that led their hosts to war,
They flee, they flee away :
The housewives share the goodly spoil
Left on the fatal day.
- 13 Where were ye that came not to help ?
Lay ye in your sheep fold ?
Dove's wings with silver cover'd are,
Her plumes with yellow gold.

14 Where the Almighty scatter'd kings,
 On Salmon snow was white.

15 A holy hill was Bashan's hill,
 A hill of towering height.

16 Why look askance, ye lofty hills,
 On that which God loves well,
And chose for his abiding place,
 For ever there to dwell ?

17 God's chariots twenty thousand are,
 Thousands of angels strong :
Like Sinai hill for holiness,
 The Lord is them among.


18 Thou hast, O Lord, most glorious,
 Ascended up on high ;
And in thy train led captive those
 That did thy might defy.

Thou hast received rich gifts 'mong men ;
 And such as did rebel,
Ev'n they submissive in the land
 Of God the Lord shall dwell.

19 Bless'd be the Lord. From day to day
 Let his high praise resound :
Whatever burdens on us lie,
 God is a saviour found.

20 He of salvation is the God,
 Who is our God most strong :
And unto God the Lord from death
 The issues do belong.

-
- 21 But surely God shall wound the head
Of those that are his foes ;
The hairy scalp of him that still
On in his trespass goes.
- 22 God said, ' Mine adversaries I
Will bring from Bashan hill ;
Yea, from the seas' devouring depths
Them bring again I will.
- 23 ' That in the blood of enemies
Thy foot imbrued may be ;
And of thy dogs dipp'd in the same
The tongues thou mayest see.'
- 24 Thy goings they have seen, O God,
The steps of festal grace
Of God my King in majesty
Up to his holy place.
- 25 Before went singers, players next
On instruments took way ;
And among them the damsels were
That did on timbrels play.
- 26 Within the congregations great
Bless God with one accord :
Ye that from Israel's fountain spring
Praise ye the mighty Lord.
- 27 Their leader, little Benjamin,
And Judah's chiefs we see
With their array ; of Zebulon
The chief, and Naphtali.

- 28 Command thy strength, O God ; make strong
What thou wrought'st for us, Lord ;
- 29 For thy house at Jerusalem
Let kings thee gifts afford.
- 30 The beast of reeds rebuke ; the bulls
And calves that many are ;
Till all submit with silver gifts.
Them scatter that love war.
- 31 Princes and mighty men shall then
Come from Egyptian lands ;
And Ethiopia to God
Shall soon stretch out her hands.
- 32 O all ye kingdoms of the earth,
Sing praises to this king ;
For he is Lord that ruleth all,
Unto him praises sing.
- 33 To him that rides in highest heavens,
Which he of old did found ;
Lo, he sends out his voice, a voice
In might that doth abound.
- 34 Strength unto God do ye ascribe :
For over Israël
His majesty keeps watch ; his strength
Within the clouds doth dwell.
- 35 Thou 'rt from thy temple dreadful, Lord ;
The God of Israel, he
Gives strength and power unto his folk.
O let God blessed be !
- 

LXIX.

- 1 SAVE me, O God, because the floods
 Do so environ me,
 That ev'n unto my very soul
 Come in the waters be.
- 2 I downward in deep mire do sink,
 Where standing there is none :
 I am into deep waters come,
 Where floods have o'er me gone.
- 3 I weary with my crying am,
 My throat is also dried ;
 Mine eyes do fail, while for my God
 I waiting do abide.
- 4 More than the hairs upon my head
 Are they that do me hate
 Without a cause : my wrongful foes
 That me destroy are great.
- So although no man's goods I robb'd,
 To pay them they forced me.
- 5 Lord, thou my folly know'st, my sins
 Not cover'd are from thee.
- 6 Let none that wait on thee be shamed,
 Lord God of hosts, for me ;
 Let none e'er blush through me, O God
 Of Israel, that seek thee.

- 7 For I have borne reproach for thee :
 My face is hid for shame.
- 8 To brethren strange, to mother's sons
 An alien I became.
- 9 By a consuming zeal unto
 Thine house my strength is worn ;
 And upon my devoted head
 Hath come the sinners' scorn.
- 10 My tears and fasts brought down my soul ;
 That counted to my shame.
- 11 When sackcloth I did wear, to them
 A proverb I became.
- 12 Those at the city gate that wont
 To sit about me spake ;
 And boon companions at their feasts
 Of me their song did make.
- 13 But in a favourable time
 Let my prayer come to thee ;
 In truth of thy salvation, Lord,
 And mercy great, hear me.
- 14 Deliver me out of the mire,
 From sinking do me keep ;
 Free me from those that do me hate,
 And from the waters deep.
- 15 Let not the flood on me prevail,
 Whose water overflows ;
 Nor deep me swallow, nor the pit
 Her mouth upon me close.

-
- 16 Hear me, O Lord, because that good
 Thy tender mercies be ;
 According to thy boundless grace
 O turn again to me.
- 17 Nor from thy servant hide thy face ;
 I'm troubled, soon attend.
- 18 Draw near my soul, and it redeem ;
 Me from my foes defend.
- 19 To thee is my reproach well known,
 My shame, and my disgrace ;
 Those that mine adversaries be
 Are all before thy face.
- 20 Scorn broke my heart ; of heaviness
 I'm full : I look'd for one
 To pity me, but none I found ;
 To comfort found I none.
- 21 When I was hungry for my meat,
 They gave me bitter gall ;
 And vinegar to drink they gave,
 When I athirst did call.
- 22 Before them let their table prove
 A snare ; do thou it make,
 Ev'n in their time of peaceful ease,
 A trap themselves to take.
- 23 Let thou their eyes so darken'd be
 That sight may them forsake ;
 And let their loins be made by thee
 Incessantly to shake.

- 24 Pour out thy wrath, Lord ; let them feel
 Thine anger's fiery glow :
- 25 Let their abode be desolate,
 Their tents no dwellers know.
- 26 Because him they did persecute
 Whom thou didst smite before ;
They talk unto the grief of those
 Whom thou hast wounded sore.
- 27 Increase thy judgments ; add new guilt
 To former guiltiness :
And do not let them come at all
 Into thy righteousness.
- 28 Out of the book of life let them
 Be razed and blotted quite ;
And in the roll of righteous men
 Their names do thou not write.
- 29 But now become exceeding poor
 And sorrowful am I :
By thy salvation, O my God,
 Let me be set on high.
- 30 The name of God I with a song
 Most cheerfully will praise ;
And I, in giving thanks to him,
 His name will highly raise.
- 31 This to the Lord shall surely prove
 A better offering
Than any beast with horns and hoofs
 Which I to him could bring.

-
- 32 When this the humble men shall see,
 It joy to them shall give :
 O all ye that do seek the Lord,
 Your hearts shall ever live.
- 33 For God the poor hears, and will not
 His prisoners contemn.
- 34 Let heaven and earth and seas him praise,
 And all that move in them.
- 35 For God will Zion surely save,
 And Judah's cities build,
 That they may be inhabited,
 And their fields may be till'd.
- 36 And they that are his servants' seed
 Inherit shall the same ;
 So shall they have their dwelling there
 That love his blessed name.

L X X.

- 1 LORD, haste me to preserve,
 With speed, Lord, succour me.
- 2 Let them that for my soul do seek
 Shamed and confounded be.
- Turn'd back be they and shamed,
 That in my hurt delight.
- 3 Turn'd back be they 'Ha, ha !' that say,
 Their shaming to requite.

- 4 In thee let all be glad,
 And joy that seek for thee :
 Let them who thy salvation love
 Say still, 'God blessed be.'
- 5 I poor and needy am ;
 Come, Lord, and make no stay :
 My help thou and redeemer art ;
 O Lord, make no delay.

L X X I

- 1 O LORD, in thee I put my trust,
 My hope is in thy name :
 Let not my confidence be vain,
 My hope be put to shame.
- 2 And do thou in thy righteousness
 Rid and deliver me ;
 Incline thine ear unto my prayer,
 Save, Lord, and set me free.
- 3 Be thou my refuge, unto which
 I ever may resort :
 Thou gav'st commandment me to save,
 Thou art my rock and fort.
- 4 Free me, O God, from wicked hands,
 Hands cruel and unjust :
- 5 For thou, O Lord God, art my hope,
 And from my youth my trust.

-
- 6 Thou from the womb didst hold me up ;
 Thou art the same that me
 Ev'n from my birth hast kindly led :
 I ever will praise thee.
- 7 To many I a wonder am ;
 Thou art my refuge strong.
- 8 So is my mouth fill'd with thy praise
 And honour all day long.
- 9 O do not cast me off when me
 Old age doth overtake ;
 And when my strength begins to fail,
 Then do not me forsake.
- 10 For those that are mine enemies
 Against me speak with hate ;
 And they together counsel take
 That for my soul lay wait.
- 11 They said, 'God leaves him ; him pursue
 And take : none will him save.'
- 12 Be thou not far from me, O God ;
 Thy speedy help I crave.
- 13 Confound, consume them, that against
 My soul for mischief rise :
 Clothed be they with reproach and shame
 That do my hurt devise.
- 14 But I will hope in thee always
 Who art my God most high ;
 And yet with praises more and more
 I will thee magnify.

- 15 Thy justice and salvation still
My mouth abroad shall show,
Ev'n all the day; for I thereof
The numbers do not know.
- 16 And I will constantly go on
In strength of God the Lord;
And thine own righteousness, ev'n thine
Alone, I will record.
- 17 For even from my youth, O God,
By thee I have been taught;
And hitherto I have declared
The wonders thou hast wrought.
- 18 And now, Lord, leave me not, when I
Old and grey-headed grow:
Till to this age thy strength, thy power,
To all to come I show.
- 19 And thy most perfect righteousness,
O God, to heaven doth rise:
Who is like thee, who so great things
Hast done before our eyes?
- Thou, Lord, who great adversities
And sore to us didst show,
Shalt quicken and us bring again
From the abyss below.
- My greatness and my power thou wilt
Increase and far extend;
And once again for all my grief
Thou wilt me comfort send.

-
- 22 Thee, ev'n thy truth, I'll also praise,
My God, with psaltery :
Thou Holy One of Israël
With harp I'll sing to thee.
- 23 My lips shall much rejoice in thee,
When I thy praises sound ;
My soul, which thou, Lord, hast redeem'd,
In joy shall much abound.
- 24 My tongue thy justice shall proclaim
Continuing all day long ;
For they confounded are and shamed,
That seek to do me wrong.


LXXII.

- 1 O LORD, thy judgments give the king,
His son thy righteousness.
- 2 With right let him thy people judge
Thy poor with uprightness.
- 3 Peace shall abound in all the land,
Peace shall its mountains bless ;
And on its little hills shall rest
The fruit of righteousness.
- 4 The people's poor ones he shall judge,
The needy's children save ;
And their oppressors he shall break
And tread down to the grave.

- 5 They shall thee fear while sun and moon
 Do last through ages all ;
- 6 Like rain on mown grass he shall drop,
 As showers on earth that fall.
- 7 The just shall flourish in his days
 And prosper in his reign :
 He shall, while doth the moon endure,
 Abundant peace maintain.
- 8 His large and great dominion shall
 From sea to sea extend :
 It from the river shall reach forth
 Unto earth's utmost end.
- 9 They in the wilderness that dwell
 Bow down before him must ;
 And they that are his enemies
 Shall lick the very dust.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and the isles
 To him shall presents bring ;
 And unto him shall offer gifts
 Sheba's and Seba's king.
- 11 Yea, all the mighty kings on earth
 Before him down shall fall ;
 And through the wide bounds of the world
 Shall nations serve him all.
- 12 For he the needy shall preserve,
 When he to him doth call ;
 The poor also and him that hath
 No help of man at all.

-
- 13 The poor and needy he shall spare,
 The needy's soul redeem ;
- 14 From guile and hardship free their souls,
 For dear's their blood to him.
- 15 Yea, they shall live, and come to him
 With gifts of Sheba's gold :
 For him they still shall pray, and he
 Shall daily be extoll'd.
- 16 Then all the land ev'n to its heights
 Shall bear abundant corn ;
 Its fruit shall rustle like the trees
 That Lebanon adorn :
- And they that in the city dwell
 Shall then be flourishing,
 As the rich grass shoots from the earth
 And flourishes in spring.
- 17 His name in glory like the sun
 Shall last through ages all :
 Men shall be bless'd in him, and bless'd
 All nations shall him call.
- 18 Now blessèd be the Lord our God,
 The God of Israël ;
 For he alone doth wondrous works
 In glory that excel.
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name
 To all eternity :
 The whole earth let his glory fill.
 Amen, so let it be.

LXXIII.

- 1 YES : God is good to Israël,
 To each pure-hearted one.
- 2 But as for me, my steps near slipp'd,
 My feet were almost gone.
- 3 For I was envious and grudged
 The foolish folk to see,
 When I perceived the wicked sort ,
 Enjoy prosperity.
- 4 No pains afflict them till they die,
 They still are stout and strong :
- 5 From troubles and from plagues they 're free
 That unto men belong.
- 6 Therefore their pride by them always
 Is like a necklace worn ;
 With violence for garments gay
 Do they themselves adorn.
- 7 From hearts with evil flowing o'er
 Their wickedness proceeds :
- 8 Scornful they are ; speak loftily
 Of base oppressive deeds.
- 9 They set their mouth against the heavens
 In their presumptuous talk ;
 And their reproaching tongue throughout
 The earth at large doth walk.
- 

-
- 10 His people therefore turn aside
When they such welfare see,
As from a flowing cup they quaff
And fare so sumptuously.
- 11 And thus they say, 'How can it be
That God these things doth know?
And can there in the Highest be
Knowledge of things below?'
- 12 Behold, these are ungodly men;
And yet after their will
They live secure from day to day,
They heap up riches still.
- 13 Surely my cleansing of my heart
Has been a service vain;
I've wash'd my hands in innocence;
And where has been my gain?
- 14 For all the while without respite
I have been smitten sore;
And sure as dawn'd the morning light
My chastisement I bore.
- 15 If thus I thought and thus I spoke
In dark mistrustful way,
The generation of thy sons
I surely should betray.
- 16 When this I thought to know, it was
Too hard a thing for me:
- 17 Till to God's holy place I went,
Their end saw heedfully.

- 18 Assuredly thou didst them set
 In places slippery ;
 Thou castedst them down to the ground,
 And there they broken lie.
- 19 How in a moment suddenly
 To ruin brought are they !
 With fearful terrors utterly
 They are consumed away.
- 20 Ev'n like unto a dream when one
 From sleeping doth arise ;
 So thou, O Lord, when thou awak'st
 Their image shall despise.
- 21 My heart was grieved, my reins were stung.
22 So foolish then was I ;
 So ignorant, like senseless beast,
 I was before thine eye.
- 23 But as for me I constantly,
 O Lord, abide with thee :
 Thou dost me hold by my right hand,
 And still upholdest me.
- 24 Thou with thy counsel, while I live,
 Wilt me conduct and guide ;
 And to thy glory afterward
 Receive me to abide.
- 25 Whom have I in the heavens high
 But thee, O Lord, alone ?
 And in the earth whom I desire
 Besides thee there is none.

-
- 26 Although my flesh and heart should fail,
 In pain and anguish sore,
 Yet thou the God art of my strength,
 My portion evermore.
- 27 For lo, they that are far from thee
 Shall perish from men's view :
 Thou hast destroy'd them utterly
 That are to thee untrue.
- 28 But surely it is good for me
 That I draw near to God :
 In God I trust, that all thy works
 I may declare abroad.

LXXIV.

- 1 O God, why hast thou cast me off ?
 Is it for evermore ?
 Against thy pasture sheep why doth
 Thine anger smoke so sore ?
- 2 Thy congregation mind which thou
 Didst purchase for thine own,
 Thine heritage thou didst redeem,
 Zion where stands thy throne.
- 3 These desolations great and long
 Arise, Lord, and repair ;
 See how thy wanton enemies
 Have spoil'd thy temple fair.

- 4 When once thy folk sang holy psalms,
 Thy foes make tumult vile ;
 And setting up their unclean signs,
 Thy holy place defile.
- 5 Ev'n as in forest dense the trees
 The woodman's axe employ,
6 So they with axe and hammer rude
 The fine carved work destroy.
- 7 Thy sanctuary they have fired,
 And have defiled the same,
 By casting down unto the ground
 The place where dwelt thy name.
- 8 Thus said they in their hearts : ' Let us
 Destroy them out of hand : '
 They burnt up all the synagogues
 Of God within the land.
- 9 Our signs we do not now behold ;
 There is not us among
 A prophet as in olden times,
 Nor one that knows how long.
- 10 How long, Lord, shall the enemy
 Thus in reproach exclaim ?
 And shall the adversary thus
 Always blaspheme thy name ?
- 11 Why dost thou thus thy hand withdraw ?
 Why holdest thy right hand ?
 Out from thy bosom ! Lord, destroy
 The heathen from thy land.

-
- 12 For certainly God is my King,
Ev'n from the times of old,
Working in midst of all the earth
Salvation manifold.
- 13 The sea, by thy great power, to part
Asunder thou didst make ;
Thou didst the dragons' heads, O Lord,
Within the waters break.
- 14 The head of great leviathan
Thou didst in pieces break ;
And him to desert folk didst give
For meat his flesh to take.
- 15 Thou clavest rocks, and thirsty lands
Did with fresh streams abound :
Thou driedst the mighty waters up
Unto the very ground.
- 16 Thine only is the day, O Lord,
Thine also is the night ;
'Tis thou that hast alone prepared
The sun and shining light.
- 17 By thee the borders of the earth
Were settled everywhere :
The summer and the winter both
By thee created were.
- 18 That thee the enemy hath scorn'd,
O keep it in record ;
And that the foolish people have
Blasphemed thy name, O Lord.

- 19 Thy dove's life do not thou give o'er
To ravenous birds of prey ;
The congregation of thy poor
Do not forget alway.
- 20 Unto thy cov'nant have respect,
For earth's dark places be
Full of abodes of robbery
And horrid cruelty.
- 21 O let not those that be oppress'd
Be turn'd away with shame ;
Let those that poor and needy are
Give praise unto thy name.
- 22 Arise, O Lord, the cause is thine,
For thine own cause contend ;
Remember how with scorn the fools
Thee daily do offend.
- 23 Do not forget the boastful voice
Of those that are thy foes :
Thine adversaries keep in mind,
Whose tumult ever grows.

L X X V.

- 1 To thee, O God, do we give thanks,
We do give thanks to thee ;
Because thy wondrous works declare
Thy great name near to be.

-
- 2 I purpose when the time shall come
Ordain'd eternally,
That I to judgment shall arise
And judge men uprightly.
- 3 Affrighted is the land, with all
That in the same do dwell ;
But I the pillars thereof do
Bear up and 'stablish well.
- 4 I to the fools said, 'Be not fools ;'
To bad men, 'See that ye
5 Lift not on high your horn, nor speak
With stubborn neck to me.'
- 6 For not from east, nor west, nor south,
Comes exaltation nigh :
7 But God is judge ; he puts down one,
Another sets on high.
- 8 For in the hand of God a cup
With spiced wine foameth o'er ;
The very dregs the wicked drain
Which he from thence doth pour.
- 9 But I for ever will declare,
I Jacob's God will praise.
All horns of lewd men I'll cut off ;
But just men's horns will raise.

L X X V I.

- 1 IN Israël God's name is great,
 In Judah he is known.
- 2 In Salem is his dwelling-place,
 In Zion is his throne.
- 3 There arrows, shield, and sword he brake,
 All instruments of war.
- 4 More glorious thou than hills of prey,
 More excellent art far.
- 5 Those that were stout of heart are spoil'd,
 They slept their sleep outright ;
And none of those their hands did find,
 That were the men of might.
- 6 At thy rebuke, O Jacob's God,
 A deep sleep seals their eyes ;
No longer roll their chariot wheels,
 The horse in stillness lies.
- 7 Thou, Lord, ev'n thou art he that should
 Be fear'd ; and who is he
That may stand up before thy sight,
 If once thou angry be ?
- 8 When earth thy judgments heard it fear'd,
 Lay quiet as the grave,
- 9 When God from heaven to judgment came
 All meek on earth to save.

-
- 10 Surely the very wrath of man
Doth to thy praise redound ;
With that which doth remain of wrath
Thou girded art around.
- 11 Vow to the Lord your God, and pay :
All ye that near him be,
Bring gifts and presents unto him ;
For to be fear'd is he.
- 12 The princes' pride he breaketh down,
Their high heart bringeth low ;
And to the kings that are on earth
His terrors he doth show.

L X X V I I.

- 1 UNTO the Lord I lift my voice,
Who will my crying hear ;
Unto the Lord I lift my voice,
And he will bend his ear.
- 2 I in my trouble sought the Lord,
I never ceased to pray
With outstretch'd hands ; my troubled soul
All comfort put away.
- 3 I to remembrance God did call,
Yet trouble did remain ;
And overwhelm'd my spirit was
Whilst I did sore complain.

- 4 My weary eyelids will not close,
 Thou givest me no rest ;
 I have no words to tell the grief
 Wherewith I am oppress'd.
- 5 The days of old I thought upon,
 The glorious days of old,
 The stories of the ancient years
 Our fathers have us told.
- 6 The song of praise I sang before
 I now recall to mind ;
 With deep heart searching I inquire
 How I relief may find.
- 7 For ever will the Lord cast off ?
 And gracious be no more ?
- 8 For ever is his mercy gone ?
 Fails his word evermore ?
- 9 Is't true that to be gracious
 The Lord forgotten hath ?
 And that his tender mercies he
 Hath shut up in his wrath ?
- 10 Then did I say that surely this
 Is mine infirmity,
 To think that changed the Lord most high's
 Right hand could ever be.
- 11 Yea, I remember will the works
 Accomplish'd by the Lord ;
 The wonders done of old by thee
 I surely will record.

-
- 12 I also will of all thy works
My meditation make ;
And of thy doings to discourse
Great pleasure I will take.
- 13 O God, thy way most holy is,
Thus unto him I'll cry,
And what God is so great in power
As is our God most high ?
- 14 Thou art the God that wonders dost
By thy right hand most strong ;
Thy mighty power thou hast declared
The nations all among.
- 15 To thine own people with thine arm
Thou didst redemption bring ;
To Jacob's sons, and to the tribes
Of Joseph that do spring.
- 16 The waters, O my God, saw thee,
The waters saw thee well ;
And they for fear aside did flee,
The depths on trembling fell.
- 17 The clouds in water forth were pour'd,
Sound loudly did the sky ;
And swiftly through the world abroad
Thine arrows fierce did fly.
- 18 Thy rolling thunder in the heavens
A mighty noise did make ;
Thy lightnings flash'd upon the world,
The earth afraid did shake.

- 19 Thou through the sea thy glorious way,
 Through waters wide and deep
 Thy path thou mad'st ; the sea no trace
 Could of thy marching keep.
- 20 Thy people like a flock of sheep
 All through the desert wide,
 By Moses' and by Aaron's hand
 Thou didst in safety guide.

L X X V I I I.

- 1 ATTEND, my people, to my law ;
 Thereto give thou an ear ;
 The words that from my mouth proceed
 Attentively do hear.
- 2 My mouth shall speak a parable
 And sayings dark of old ;
- 3 The same which we have heard and known,
 And us our fathers told.
- 4 We also will them not conceal
 From their posterity ;
 To generations yet to come
 These things declare will we :
- The praises of the Lord our God,
 And his almighty strength,
 The wondrous works that he hath done
 We will show forth at length.

-
- 5 His testimony and his law
 In Israel he did place ;
And charged our fathers it to show
 To their succeeding race.
- 6 That so the race that was to come
 Might well them learn and know ;
And sons unborn which should arise,
 Might to their sons them show :
- 7 That they might set their hope in God,
 And suffer not to fall
His mighty works out of their mind,
 But keep his precepts all :
- 8 And might not a rebellious race
 Like all their fathers be ;
Of heart unfaithful, who their God
 Would not serve steadfastly.
- 9 The sons of Ephraim, bearing bows,
 Well harness'd every man,
Whenas the day of battle was
 Like cowards turn'd and ran.
- 10 They brake God's cov'nant, and refused
 In his commands to go ;
- 11 His works and wonders they forgot,
 Which he did to them show.
- 12 His wondrous power he before
 Their fathers' sight reveal'd ;
In Egypt mighty works were done,
 Yea, ev'n in Zoan's field.

- 13 For them divided he the sea,
He caused them through to pass ;
And in a heap he strongly held
The waters' mighty mass.
- 14 With cloud by day, with light of fire
All night, he did them guide.
- 15 In desert rocks he clave, and drink
As from great depths supplied.
- 16 He from the rock brought streams, like floods
Made waters down to run.
- 17 Yet sinning more, in desert they
Provoked the Highest One.
- 18 For in their heart they tempted God,
And, speaking with mistrust,
They greedily did meat require
To satisfy their lust.
- 19 Against the Lord himself they spake,
And murmuring said thus,
'A table in the wilderness
Can God prepare for us ?
- 20 'Behold, he smote the rock, and thence
Came streams in rushing flow ;
But can he give his people bread,
Or can he flesh bestow ?'
- 21 The Lord did hear and wrathful was ;
So kindled was a flame
'Gainst Jacob, and 'gainst Israël
Up indignation came.

-
- 22 For they believed not God, nor did
On his sure help rely ;
- 23 Then clouds above he did command,
Bade heaven's doors open fly,
- 24 And manna rain'd on them, and gave
Them corn of heaven to eat.
- 25 Man angels' food did eat ; to them
He to the full sent meat.
- 26 And in the heaven he did cause
An eastern wind to blow ;
And by his power he let out
The southern wind to go.
- 27 Then flesh as thick as dust he made
To rain down them among ;
And feather'd fowls, like as the sand
That lies the shore along.
- 28 Then showers of flesh amidst the camp
Fell down at his command,
All round about upon the ground
Whereon their tents did stand.
- 29 So they did eat abundantly,
And had of meat their fill ;
For he did give to them what was
Their own desire and will.
- 30 Their greedy lust unsatisfied,
They still were feasting well ;
But while the meat was in their mouths,
God's wrath upon them fell.

- 31 It came upon them and cut down
 The strongest of them all ;
 So that the choice of Israel
 O'erthrown by death did fall.
- 32 Yet for all these his wondrous works
 Faithless they trespass'd still :
33 So like a breath their life he made ;
 With terror did them kill.
- 34 But when he slew them, then they did
 To seek him show desire ;
 Yea, they return'd, and after God
 Right early did inquire.
- 35 And that the Lord had been their rock
 Then they recall'd to mind ;
 Ev'n that the high almighty God
 Had been their saviour kind.
- 36 Yet with their froward mouth they dared
 To flatter the Most High,
 And they unto the God of truth
 With their false tongues did lie.
- 37 For though their words were good, their heart
 Had no fast loyalty ;
 No steadfast mind had they to keep
 His cov'nant faithfully.
- 38 But full of pity, he forgave
 Their sin, and did not slay ;
 Nor stirr'd up all his wrath, but oft
 His anger turn'd away.

-
- 39 For that they were but fading flesh
To mind he did recall ;
A wind that passeth soon away,
And not returns at all.
- 40 How often in the wilderness
They did 'gainst him rebel ;
- 41 Anew they tempted and provoked
The God of Israël.
- 42 They did not call to mind his power,
Nor yet the day when he
Deliver'd them out of the hand
Of their fierce enemy.
- 43 Nor how great signs in Egypt land
He openly had wrought ;
What miracles in Zoan's field
His hand to pass had brought.
- 44 How lakes he turn'd throughout the land,
And rivers into blood ;
So that nor man nor beast could drink
Of standing lake or flood.
- 45 He brought among them swarms of flies
Which did them sore annoy ;
And divers kinds of filthy frogs
He sent them to destroy.
- 46 He to the caterpillar gave
The fruits of all their soil ;
Their labours he deliver'd up
Unto the locusts' spoil.

- 47 Their vines with hail, their mulberries
 He with the frost did blight.
- 48 Their beasts with hail, with thunderbolts
 Their flocks he slaughter'd quite.
- 49 Fierce burning wrath he on them cast,
 And indignation strong,
 And troubles sore, by sending forth
 Ill angels them among.
- 50 He to his wrath made way ; their soul
 From death he did not save ;
 But to the deadly pestilence
 Their lives he over gave.
- 51 He all the land of Egypt through
 Laid low the first-born's head ;
 The foremost hope of future strength
 In tents of Ham lay dead.
- 52 But his own people from that land
 He led forth like to sheep ;
 And he, amidst the wilderness,
 Them, as a flock, did keep.
- 53 And he them safely on did lead,
 So that they never fear'd ;
 Whenas the sea their foes o'erwhelm'd,
 No trace of them appear'd.
- 54 To borders of his holy land
 The Lord his people brought ;
 Ev'n to the mount which his right hand
 For their abode had bought.

- 55 The heathen that were settled there,
 By his almighty hand
 Before their face he did expel
 Out of their native land ;
- Which for inheritance to them
 By line he did divide,
 And made the tribes of Israël
 Within their tents abide.
- 56 Yet God most high they did provoke
 And tempted ever still :
 His testimonies to observe
 Did not incline their will.
- 57 But like their fathers they turn'd back
 And dealt unfaithfully :
 Aside they were turn'd, like a bow
 That shoots deceitfully.
- 58 For him to anger they provoked
 With their idolatry ;
 And with their graven images
 Moved him to jealousy.
- 59 When God heard this he wrathful was,
 And much loath'd Israel then :
- 60 So Shiloh's tent he left, the tent
 Which he had placed with men.
- 61 And he his strength deliver'd o'er
 Into captivity,
 He left his glory in the hand
 Of his proud enemy.

- 62 His people also he gave o'er
 Unto the sword's fierce rage :
 So sore his anger was inflamed
 Against his heritage.
- 63 The fire their youths devour'd ; their maids
 Now heard no marriage lays ;
- 64 Their priests fell by the sword : no wives
 For them the dirge did raise.
- 65 But then the Lord arose, as one
 That doth from sleep awake ;
 And like a giant that by wine
 Refresh'd a shout doth make.
- 66 His enemies he then drove back,
 Compelling them to fly ;
 And so upon them he did cause
 A lasting shame to lie.
- 67 Moreover he the lofty tent
 Of Joseph did refuse ;
 The princely tribe of Ephraim
 He would in no wise choose ;
- 68 But he the tribe of Judah chose
 To be the rest above ;
 And of Mount Zion he made choice,
 Which he so much did love.
- 69 And he his sanctuary built
 Like to the heavens for height ;
 Like to the earth which he for aye
 Hath founded by his might.

-
- 70 Of David that his servant was
 He also choice did make,
 And even from the folds of sheep
 Was minded him to take :
- 71 From waiting on the ewes with young,
 He brought him forth to feed
 His chosen people Israël,
 Jacob, his own, to lead.
- 72 So after the integrity
 He of his heart them fed ;
 And by the good skill of his hands
 Them prudently he led.

LXXIX.

- 1 O GOD, the heathen enter'd have
 Into thine heritage ; by them
 Thy temple is defiled : on heaps
 They laid Jerusalem.
- 2 The bodies of thy servants they
 Have cast forth to be meat
 To ravenous fowls ; thy dear saints' flesh
 They gave to beasts to eat.
- 3 Their blood about Jerusalem
 Like water they have shed ;
 And there was none to bury them
 When they were lying dead.

-
- 4 Unto our neighbours a reproach
 Most base become are we ;
 A scorn and laughing-stock to them
 That round about us be.
- 5 How long, Lord, shall thine anger last ?
 Wilt thou still keep the same ?
 And shall thy fervent jealousy
 Burn ever like a flame ?
- 6 On heathen pour thy fury forth,
 That never have thee known ;
 And on those kingdoms which thy name
 Have never call'd upon.
- 7 For these are they who Jacob have
 Devour'd so cruelly ;
 And they his pastures green have made
 • Like desert waste to be.
- 8 Against us mind not former sins,
 Thy tender mercies show ;
 Let them us visit speedily,
 For we're brought very low.
- 9 For thine own honour help us, Lord,
 Who hast our saviour been ;
 Deliver us, for thy name's sake ;
 O purge away our sin.
- 10 Why say the heathen, ' Where's their God ?'
 Let him to them be known ;
 When those who shed thy servants' blood
 Are in our sight o'erthrown.

-
- 11 O let the prisoners' sighs ascend
 Before thy sight on high ;
 Preserve those in thy mighty power
 That are design'd to die.
- 12 And to our neighbours' bosom cause
 It sevenfold render'd be,
 Ev'n the reproach wherewith they have
 O Lord, reproachèd thee.
- 13 So we thy folk and pasture sheep
 Shall give thee thanks always ;
 And unto generations all
 We will show forth thy praise.

LXXX.

- 1 **HEAR**, Israel's Shepherd ! like a flock
 Thou that dost Joseph guide ;
 Shine forth, O thou that dost between
 The cherubim abide !
- 2 In Ephraim's and Benjamin's,
 And in Manasseh's sight,
 O come for our salvation, Lord ;
 Stir up thy strength and might.
- 3 Turn us again, O Lord our God,
 And upon us vouchsafe
 To make thy countenance to shine,
 And so we shall be safe.

- 4 O Lord of hosts, almighty God,
How long shall kindled be
Thy wrath against the prayer made
By thine own folk to thee ?
- 5 Thou tears of sorrow to thy folk
Dost give instead of bread ;
And for their drink, in measure great
Thou givest tears instead.
- 6 Thou makest us a strife unto
Our neighbours round about ;
Our enemies among themselves
At us do laugh and flout.
- 7 Turn us again, O God of hosts,
And upon us vouchsafe
To make thy countenance to shine,
And so we shall be safe.
- 8 A vine from Egypt brought thou hast
By thine own outstretch'd hand ;
And thou the heathen out didst cast,
To plant it in their land.
- 9 Before it thou a room didst make,
Where it might grow and stand ;
Thou causedst it deep root to take,
And it did fill the land.
- 10 The mountains veil'd were with its shade,
As with a covering ;
Like goodly cedars were the boughs
Which out from it did spring.

-
- 11 Upon the one hand to the sea
 Her boughs she did extend ;
 On th' other hand unto the flood
 Her shoots she did out send.
- 12 Her hedge why hast thou broken down ?
 Removed her fence away ?
 So that all passers-by do pluck,
 And make of her a prey.
- 13 The boar that from the forest comes
 At pleasure it doth waste ;
 The wild beast of the field also
 Its fruit may browsing taste.
- 14 O God of hosts, we thee beseech,
 Return now unto thine ;
 Look down from heaven in love, behold,
 And visit this thy vine :
- 15 This vineyard which thine own right hand
 Hath planted us among ;
 And that same branch which for thyself
 Thou hast made to be strong.
- 16 Burnt up it is with flaming fire,
 It also is cut down ;
 They perish all at thy rebuke,
 Whenas thy face doth frown.
- 17 O let thy hand be still upon
 The man of thy right hand,
 The son of man, whom for thyself
 Thou madest strong to stand.

- 18 So henceforth we will not go back
 Nor turn from thee at all :
 O do thou quicken us, and we
 Upon thy name will call.
- 19 Turn us again, Lord God of hosts,
 And upon us vouchsafe
 To make thy countenance to shine,
 And so we shall be safe.

LXXXI.

- SING loud to God our strength ; with joy
 To God of Jacob sing.
Take up a psalm, the pleasant harp,
 Timbrel and psaltery bring.
- 3 Blow trumpets at new moon ; for this
 Is our august feast-day :
- 4 For this the law is of our God,
 A statute to obey.
- 5 To Joseph for a witness this
 He fix'd, when Egypt land
 He march'd against, where speech I heard
 I did not understand.
- 6 His shoulder I from burden took,
 His hands from pots set free.
- 7 Thou didst in trouble on me call,
 And I deliver'd thee.

In secret place of thundering
I did thee answer make ;
And at the streams of Meribah
Of thee a proof did take.

8 O thou my people, give an ear,
I'll testify to thee ;
To thee, O Israel, if thou wilt
But hearken unto me.

9 No strange God must there ever be
Known in the midst of thee ;
Nor unto any stranger's god
Thy homage render'd be.

10 I am the Lord thy God, which did
From Egypt land thee guide ;
I'll fill thy mouth abundantly,
Do thou it open wide.

11 But yet my people to my voice
Would not attentive be ;
And ev'n my chosen Israël
He would have none of me.

12 So in the hardness of their heart
I then did let them go ;
And in vain counsels of their own
They wander'd to and fro.

13 O that my people had been wise
To hearken to my voice ;
O that my foolish Israël
Of my ways had made choice !

- 14 Then should I soon have overcome
 All that against them stand ;
 And upon those that are their foes
 I should have turn'd my hand.
- 15 Then should the haters of the Lord,
 To bow down have been fain :
 But long life should have been their part
 And good that should remain.
- 16 He should have also fed them with
 The finest of the wheat ;
 Of honey from the rock thy fill
 I should have made thee eat.

LXXXII.

- 1 IN gods' assembly God doth stand ;
 He judgeth gods among.
- 2 How long, accepting persons vile,
 Will ye give judgment wrong ?
- 3 Defend the poor and fatherless ;
 To poor oppress'd do right.
- 4 The poor and needy ones set free ;
 Rid them from ill men's might.
- 5 They know not nor will understand,
 In darkness walk they on :
 All the foundations of the earth
 Out of their course are gone.

- 6 I said that ye are gods, and are
Sons of the Highest all :
7 But ye shall die like men, and as
One of the princes fall.
8 O God, do thou raise up thyself,
The earth to judgment call :
For thou as thine inheritance
Shalt take the nations all.

LXXXIII.

- 1 KEEP not thou silence ; be not still,
O God, no longer wait.
2 For lo, thy foes a tumult make :
They threaten that thee hate.
3 Against thy chosen people they
Do crafty counsel take ;
And they against thy hidden ones
Do consultations make.
4 'Come, let us now cut off,' said they,
'This nation utterly ;
That of the name of Israël
No more may mention be.'
5 For with joint heart they plot, in league
Against thee they combine.
6 The tents of Edom, Ishmaelites,
Moab's and Hagar's line.

- 7 Gebal and Ammon, Amalek,
 Philistines, those of Tyre ;
8 And Assur join'd with them, to help
 Lot's children they conspire.
- 9 Do to them as to Midian,
 Jabin at Kishon strand,
10 And Sisera which at Endor fell,
 As dung to fat the land.
- 11 Like Oreb and like Zeëb make
 Their noble men to fall ;
 Like Zeba and Zalmunna like,
 Make thou their princes all :
- 12 Who said, 'God's pasture for ourselves
 Let us go up and take.'
13 My God, them like the dust, as chaff
 Before the wind them make.
- 14 As fire consumes the wood, as flame
 Doth mountains set on fire,
15 Chase and affright them with the storm
 And tempest of thine ire.
- 16 Their faces fill with shame, O Lord,
 That they may seek thy name.
17 Let them confounded be and vex'd,
 And perish in their shame :
- 18 That men may know that thou, to whom
 Alone doth appertain
 The name JEHOVAH, dost Most High
 O'er all the earth remain.

LXXXIV.

- 1 How lovely is thy dwelling-place,
 O Lord of hosts, to me !
 The tabernacles of thy grace
 How pleasant, Lord, they be !
- 2 My thirsty soul longs eagerly,
 Yea, fainst thy courts to see ;
 My very heart and flesh cry out,
 O living God, for thee.
- 3 Behold the sparrow findeth out
 An house wherein to rest ;
 The swallow there to lay her young,
 Hath built her brooding nest,

 Ev'n by thine altars, where she safe
 Her young ones forth may bring,
 O thou almighty Lord of hosts,
 Who art my God and King !
- 4 Bless'd are they in thy house that dwell ;
 They ever give thee praise :
- 5 Bless'd is the man whose strength thou art,
 In whose heart are thy ways :
- 6 Who passing on through Baca's vale
 Make it a place of springs ;
 Also the rain that falleth down
 Abundant blessing brings.

- 7 So they from strength unwearied go
 Still forward unto strength,
 Until in Zion they appear
 Before the Lord at length.
- 8 Lord God of hosts, my prayer hear,
 O Jacob's God, give ear.
- 9 See God our shield, look on the face
 Of thine anointed dear.
- 10 For better than a thousand days
 Is one thy courts within ;
 There would I rather keep a door
 Than dwell in tents of sin.
- 11 For God the Lord's a sun and shield,
 He'll grace and glory give ;
 And will withhold no good from them
 That uprightly do live.
- 12 O thou that art the Lord of hosts,
 That man is truly blest
 Who by assurèd confidence
 On thee alone doth rest.

LXXXV.

- I LORD, thou hast favourable been
 To thy belovèd land ;
 Jacob's captivity thou hast
 Recall'd with mighty hand.

-
- 2 Thy guilty folk thou hast forgiven,
When they to thee did cry ;
All their iniquity and sin
Hast cover'd from thine eye.
- 3 From thy fierce anger thou hast turn'd ;
Thy wrath hast put away.
- 4 God of our health, restore us now ;
Thy righteous anger stay.
- 5 Shall thy displeasure thus endure
Against us without end ?
Wilt thou to generations all
Thine anger forth extend ?
- 6 Wilt thou not us revive, that joy
In thee thy folk may know ?
- 7 Show us thy mercy, Lord, on us
Thy saving grace bestow.
- 8 I'll hear what God the Lord will speak ;
To his folk he'll speak peace,
And to his saints ; if only they
Would from their folly cease.
- 9 Surely to them that fear the Lord
Near is his saving grace,
That glory in our well-loved land
May have her dwelling-place.
- 10 Truth met with mercy, righteousness
And peace together stand :
- 11 Truth springs from earth and righteousness
From heaven looks on the land.

- 12 Yea, God shall bless our land, and so
 It flourish shall amain ;
 Justice shall go before his face,
 And follow in his train.

LXXXVI.

- 1 O LORD, do thou bow down thine ear,
 And hear me graciously ;
 Because I sore afflicted am,
 And am in poverty.
- 2 Because I 'm holy, let my soul
 By thee preserved safe be ;
 O thou my God, thy servant save
 That puts his trust in thee.
- 3 Sith unto thee I daily cry,
 Be merciful to me.
- 4 Rejoice thy servant's soul ; for, Lord,
 I lift my soul to thee.
- 5 For thou art very good, O Lord,
 And ready to forgive ;
 And rich in mercy, all that call
 Upon thee to relieve.
- 6 Hear, Lord, my prayer ; unto the voice
 Of my request attend.
- 7 In troublous times I 'll call on thee,
 For thou wilt answer send.

-
- 8 Lord, there is none among the gods
That may with thee compare ;
And like the works which thou hast done,
Not any work is there.
- 9 All nations whom thou mad'st shall come,
In lowly reverence lie
Before thy face ; and they, O Lord,
Thy name shall glorify.
- 10 Because thou art exceeding great,
And works by thee are done
Which are to be admired ; and thou
Art God thyself alone.
- 11 Teach me thy way, and in thy truth
My converse still shall be ;
Unite my heart, that I thy name
May fear unceasingly.
- 12 O Lord my God, with all my heart
To thee I will give praise ;
And I the glory will ascribe
Unto thy name always :
- 13 Because thy mercy toward me
In greatness doth excel ;
And thou deliver'd hast my soul
Out from the lowest hell.
- 14 O God, the proud and cruel men
In troops against me rise ;
And for my soul they seek, and thee
Set not before their eyes.

- 15 But thou a God most gracious art,
O Lord, and full of truth ;
Long-suffering, and plenteous thou
In mercy and in truth.
- 16 O turn to me thy countenance,
Have mercy me upon ;
Give strength unto thy servant, Lord,
And save thine handmaid's son.
- 17 Show me a sign for good, that they
Which do me hate may see
And be ashamed ; because thou, Lord,
Didst help and comfort me.

LXXXVII.

- 1 THE house that on his holy hill
Doth stand God loveth well :
2 He loveth Zion more than all
The tents of Israël.
- 3 Yea, glorious things are said of thee,
Thou city of the Lord.
- 4 Egypt and Babylon among
My friends I will record.
- Behold Philistia and Tyre
And Ethiopian land ;
'This man was born there,' they will say,
In this their pride doth stand.

-
- 5 And it of Zion shall be said,
 ‘This man and that man there
 Was born ;’ and he that is most high
 Himself shall stablish her.
- 6 When God the people writes, he ’ll count
 That this man was born there.
- 7 There be that sing and play : in thee
 Are all my well-springs fair.

LXXXVIII.

- 1 LORD God, my Saviour, day and night
 Before thee cried have I.
- 2 Before thee let my prayer come ;
 Give ear unto my cry.
- 3 My soul is full of grief ; my life
 Unto the grave draws nigh.
- 4 With those I’m counted that go down
 To pit and strengthless lie.
- 5 Like dead men in the silent grave,
 I lie among the slain,
 Whom thou rememberest no more,
 Who do apart remain.
- 6 Thou hast me laid in lowest pit,
 In deep and darksome graves,
- 7 Thy wrath is hard on me, thou hast
 Me press’d with all thy waves.

- 8 Thou hast put far from me my friends,
 Thou mad'st them to loathe me ;
 And I am so shut up, that I
 Find no escape for me.
- 9 For my affliction's cause mine eye
 Is like to waste away :
 On thee, Lord, have I call'd and have
 My hands stretch'd every day.
- 10 Wilt thou show wonders to the dead ?
 Shall they rise and thee bless ?
- 11 Shall thy love in the grave be told ?
 In death thy faithfulness ?
- 12 Shall thy great wonders in the dark,
 Or shall thy righteousness
 Be known to any in the land
 Of deep forgetfulness ?
- 13 But, Lord, to thee I cried ; my prayer
 At morn shall come to thee.
- 14 Why, Lord, dost thou cast off my soul,
 And hid'st thy face from me ?
- 15 I am distress'd, ev'n from my youth
 I have been like to die ;
 Thy terrors great I have endured,
 And therefore fainting lie.
- 16 The dreadful fierceness of thy wrath
 Quite over me doth go :
 Thy terrors great have cut me off,
 They did pursue me so.

- 17 For round about me every day,
Like water they did roll;
And gathering together, they
Encompass'd have my soul.
- 18 Lover and friend thou hast removed,
No man is near to save;
And for acquaintance now I claim
The dark and lonesome grave.

LXXXIX.

- 1 GOD's mercies I will ever sing;
And with my mouth I'll call
On thee, and show thy faithfulness
To generations all.
- 2 'For mercy shall be built,' said I,
'For ever to endure;
Thy faithfulness, ev'n in the heavens,
Thou wilt establish sure.'
- 3 I with my chosen One have made
A cov'nant graciously;
And to my servant David I
Have sworn in verity,
- 4 That I thy seed establish will
For ever to remain,
And will to generations all
Thy throne build and maintain.

- 5 The praises of thy wonders, Lord,
 The heavens shall express ;
 And in thine angels' glorious throng
 They'll sing thy faithfulness.
- 6 For who is there in highest heaven
 That with the Lord can vie ?
 Who among all the angels' host
 Is like to God most high ?
- 7 Great fear in councils of high heaven
 Is due unto the Lord ;
 And he of all about him should
 With reverence be adored.
- 8 O thou that art the Lord of hosts,
 What lord in mightiness
 Is like to thee, who compass'd round
 Art with thy faithfulness ?
- 9 Ev'n in its wildest rage the sea
 Must own thy sovereign will ;
 And when its waves most fiercely swell
 Thou biddest them be still.
- 10 Rahab in pieces thou dost break,
 Like one that slaughter'd is ;
 And with thy mighty arm thou hast
 Dispersed thine enemies.
- 11 The heavens are thine, thou for thine own
 The earth dost also take ;
 The world, and fulness of the same,
 Thy power did found and make.

-
- 12 The north and south from thee alone
 Their first beginning had ;
 Both Tabor mount and Hermon hill
 Shall in thy name be glad.
- 13 Thou hast an arm that's full of power,
 Thy hand is great in might ;
 And thy right hand exceedingly
 Exalted is in height.
- 14 Justice and right the pillars are
 Of thy throne evermore ;
 Mercy accompanied with truth
 Shall go thy face before.
- 15 O greatly bless'd the people are
 The joyful sound that know ;
 In brightness of thy face, O Lord,
 They ever on shall go.
- 16 With gladness shall they all the day
 Thy great name magnify ;
 And in thy righteousness shall they
 Exalted be on high.
- 17 Because the glory of their strength
 Doth only stand in thee ;
 And in thy favour shall our horn
 And power exalted be.
- 18 For God is our defence ; and he
 To us doth safety bring ;
 The Holy One of Israël
 Is our almighty King.

- 19 In vision to thy Holy One
Thou saidst, ' I help upon
A strong one laid ; out of the folk
I raised a chosen one :
- 20 Ev'n David, I have found him out
A servant unto me ;
And with my holy oil my King
Anointed him to be.
- 21 With whom my hand shall stablish'd be ;
Mine arm shall make him strong.
- 22 On him the foe shall not exact ;
Nor son of mischief wrong.
- 23 I will beat down before his face
All his malicious foes ;
I will them greatly plague who do
With hatred him oppose.
- 24 My mercy and my faithfulness
With him shall ever be ;
And in my name his horn and power
Men shall exalted see.
- 25 His hand and power shall reach afar,
I'll set it in the sea ;
And his right hand establish'd firm
Shall in the rivers be.
- 26 " Thou art my Father, thou my God ;"
Thus shall he grateful cry ;
" Of my salvation thou the rock
Hast been, my refuge high."

-
- 27 I'll make him my first-born, more high
Than kings of any land.
- 28 My love I'll ever keep for him,
My cov'nant fast shall stand.
- 29 His seed I by my power will make
For ever to endure ;
And as the days of heaven, his throne
Shall stable be and sure.
- 30 But if his children shall forsake
My laws and go astray,
And in my judgments shall not walk,
But wander from my way ;
- 31 If they my statutes break, my laws
Keep not before their eyes ;
- 32 I'll visit then their faults with rods,
Their sins I will chastise.
- 33 Yet I'll not take my love from him,
Nor false my promise make.
- 34 My cov'nant I'll not break, nor change
What with my mouth I spake.
- 35 Once by my holiness I swear,
My word to David's sure ;
- 36 His seed and throne shall as the sun
Before me still endure.
- 37 Yea, it establish'd like the moon
For ever shall endure ;
The witness that is in the heavens
Aye faithful is and sure.'

- 38 But thou displeased didst cast us off,
Thou didst abhor and loathe ;
With him that thine anointed is
Thou hast been very wroth.
- 39 Thou hast thy servant's covenant
Made void and quite cast by ;
Thou hast profaned his crown, while it
Cast on the ground doth lie.
- 40 Thou all his fences hast destroy'd,
His strongholds down hast torn.
- 41 He to all passers-by a spoil,
To neighbours is a scorn.
- 42 Thou hast set up his foes' right hand
Made them shout joyfully,
- 43 Turn'd back his sword's edge, and in war
Vouchsafed no victory.
- 44 His glory thou hast made to cease,
His throne to ground down cast ;
- 45 Shorten'd his days of youth, and him
With shame thou cover'd hast.
- 46 How long, Lord, wilt thou hide thyself ?
For ever, in thine ire ?
Against the people of thy choice
Shall thy wrath burn like fire ?
- 47 Remember, Lord, how short a time
I shall on earth remain ;
And how the life of human kind
So fleeting is and vain.

-
- 48 What man is he that liveth here,
 And death shall never see ?
 Or from the power of the grave
 What man his soul shall free ?
- 49 Thy former lovingkindnesses,
 O Lord, where are they now ?
 Those which in truth and faithfulness
 To David sworn hast thou ?
- 50 Consider, Lord, the sad reproach
 Wherewith my heart is torn ;
 Consider how I have to bear
 So many people's scorn ;
- 51 Wherewith thy raging enemies
 Do scornfully assail ;
 Wherewith thine own anointed one
 They follow without fail.

X C.

- 1 LORD, thou hast been our dwelling-place
 In generations all.
- 2 Before thou ever hadst brought forth
 The mountains great and small.

Ere ever thou hadst form'd the earth,
 And all the world abroad ;
 Thou ev'n from everlasting art
 To everlasting God.

- 3 Thou dost unto the earth again
 Man that is mortal turn ;
 And unto them thou say'st, 'To dust,
 Ye sons of men, return.'
- 4 Because a thousand years appear
 No more before thy sight
 Than yesterday, when it is past,
 Or than a watch by night.
- 5 As with an overflowing flood
 Thou carriest them away :
 They like a sleep are, as the grass
 That grows at morn are they.
- 6 At noon it flourishes and grows,
 Cut down at eve doth fade.
- 7 For by thine anger we're consumed,
 Thy wrath makes us afraid.
- 8 Our sins thou and iniquities
 Dost in thy presence place ;
 And sett'st our secret faults before
 The brightness of thy face.
- 9 For in thine anger all our days
 Do pass on to an end ;
 And as a thought that passeth soon,
 So we our years do spend.
- 10 Threescore and ten years do sum up
 Our days and years, we see ;
 Or if, by reason of more strength,
 In some fourscore they be,

Yet is the strength of such old men
Labour and vanity ;
So soon it passeth by ; and we
Depart and fly away.

- 11 Who doth the power of thy wrath
With reverence recognise ?
- 12 So teach us, Lord, our days to count,
That we in heart be wise.
- 13 Turn yet again to us, O Lord :
How long thus shall it be ?
Let it repent thee now for those
That servants are to thee.
- 14 O with thy tender mercies, Lord,
Us early satisfy ;
That we rejoice may all our days,
To thee may gladly cry.
- 15 According as the days have been,
Wherein we grief have had,
And years wherein we ill have seen,
So do thou make us glad.
- 16 O let thy work and power appear
Thy servants' face before ;
And show unto their children dear
Thy glory evermore :
- 17 And let the beauty of the Lord
Our God be us upon ;
Our handiworks establish thou,
Establish them each one.

XCI.

- 1 HE that doth in the secret ward
Of the Most High reside,
Under the shade of him that is
Almighty doth abide :
- 2 I of the Lord my God will say,
'He is my fortress still ;
He is my fortress and my God,
And in him trust I will.'
- 3 Assuredly he shall thee save
And give deliverance
From subtile fowler's snare, and from
The noisome pestilence.
- 4 He shall thee cover ; 'neath his wings
Thy hiding-place shall be :
His faithfulness shall be a shield
And buckler unto thee.
- 5 Thou shalt not need to be afraid
For terrors of the night ;
Nor for the arrow that doth fly
By day, while it is light.
- 6 Nor for the pestilence that walks
In darkness secretly ;
Nor for destruction that doth waste
At noon-day openly.

-
- 7 A thousand at thy side shall fall,
 On thy right hand shall lie
 Ten thousand dead ; yet unto thee
 It shall not once come nigh.
- 8 Only thou with thine eyes shalt look,
 And a beholder be,
 And thou therein the just reward
 Of wicked men shalt see.
- 9 Because thou sayest, 'Thou, O Lord,
 Art my sole watch and ward ;'
 The eternal God, who is most high,
 Hast chosen for thy guard :
- 10 No plague shall near thy dwelling come,
 No ill shall thee befall :
- 11 For thee his angels he shall charge
 To keep in thy ways all.
- 12 They in their hands shall bear thee up,
 Their wings around thee thrown,
 Lest thou at any time shouldst dash
 Thy foot against a stone.
- 13 Thy foot on lions trample shall,
 And on the adder's head ;
 On lions young and dragons fell
 Thou shalt securely tread.
- 14 Because on me he set his love,
 I'll save and set him free ;
 Because my great name he hath known,
 I'll guard him carefully.

- 15 Upon me he shall call, and I
 Will answer him ; in need
 I will be with him ; him I'll save
 And to great honour lead.
- 16 I will him satisfy with life
 Drawn out to goodly length ;
 I also will before his eyes
 Display my saving strength.

XCII.

- 1 To render thanks unto the Lord
 It is a comely thing,
 And to thy name, O thou Most High,
 Due praise aloud to sing :
- 2 Thy lovingkindness to show forth
 When shines the morning light ;
 And to declare thy faithfulness
 With pleasure every night :
- 3 Upon a ten-string'd instrument
 And on the psaltery,
 Upon the harp with solemn sound,
 And grave sweet melody.
- 4 For thou hast made me glad, when I
 Think on thy works each one ;
 And I will triumph in the works
 Which by thine hands are done.

-
- 5 How great, Lord, are thy works ! how deep !
 How vast thy thoughts extend !
- 6 A brutish person knoweth not,
 Fools cannot comprehend.
- 7 When those that lewd and wicked are
 Spring up like grass and grow,
 When workers of iniquity
 Make great and goodly show ;
- It is that they for evermore
 May be destroy'd and slain.
- 8 But thou, O Lord, exalted art
 For ever to remain.
- 9 For lo, thine enemies, O Lord,
 Thine enemies shall die :
 The evil-doers all abroad
 Shall scatter'd be and fly.
- 10 Like bison's horn my power shall
 Exalted be by thee ;
 Also with fresh and flowing oil
 I shall anointed be.
- 11 Mine eyes shall also my desire
 Upon mine en'mies see ;
 Mine ears shall of the wicked hear
 That rise up against me.
- 12 But like the palm-tree flourishing
 Shall be the righteous one ;
 He shall like to the cedar grow
 That is in Lebanon.


- 13 Within the courts of God's own house,
 Well planted by his grace,
 He shall grow up and flourish still
 In our God's holy place.
- 14 And in old age, when others fade,
 They fruit still forth shall bring ;
 They shall be fat and full of sap,
 And aye be flourishing ;
- 15 To show that upright is the Lord :
 He is a rock to me ;
 And he from all unrighteousness
 Is altogether free.

XCIII.

- 1 THE Lord doth reign, and clothed is he
 With majesty most bright ;
 His works do show him clothed to be
 And girt about with might.
- The world establish'd is also,
 That it can not depart.
- 2 Thy throne is fix'd of old, and thou
 From everlasting art.
- 3 The floods, O Lord, have lifted up,
 They lifted up their voice ;
 The floods have lifted up their waves,
 And made a mighty noise.

- 4 But yet the Lord that is on high
Is more of might by far
Than noise of many waters is
Or great sea-billows are.
- 5 Thy testimonies every one
In faithfulness excel :
And holiness for ever, Lord,
Thine house becometh well.
- .

XCIV.

- 1 O LORD God, unto whom alone
All vengeance doth belong ;
O mighty God, who vengeance own'st,
Shine forth, avenging wrong.
- 2 Lift up thyself, thou of the earth
The sovereign Judge that art ;
And unto those that are so proud
A due reward impart.
- 3 How long shall wicked men, O Lord,
Thus triumph haughtily ?
- 4 Speaking hard things, and boasting still,
That work iniquity ?
- 5 Thy folk they break in pieces, Lord,
Thine heritage oppress :
- 6 The widow they and stranger slay,
And kill the fatherless.
- 

- 7 And yet they said, 'God doth not see,
Nor God of Jacob know.'
- 8 Ye brutish people ! understand ;
Fools ! when wise will ye grow ?
- 9 The Lord did plant the ear of man,
And hear then shall not he ?
He only form'd the eye, and then
Shall he not clearly see ?
- 10 He that the nations doth correct,
That all the sons of men
Doth knowledge teach, your evil deeds
Shall he not punish then ?
- 11 Man's thoughts to be but vanity
The Lord doth well discern.
- 12 Bless'd is the man thou chastenest, Lord,
And mak'st thy law to learn :
- 13 That thou mayst give him rest from days
Of sad adversity,
Until the pit be digg'd for those
That work iniquity.
- 14 For sure the Lord will not cast off
Those that his people be,
Neither his own inheritance
Quit and forsake will he :
- 15 But judgment unto righteousness
Shall yet return again ;
And all shall follow after it
That are right-hearted men.

-
- 16 Who will rise up for me against
 Those that do wickedly ?
 Who will stand up for me 'gainst those
 That work iniquity ?
- 17 Unless the Lord had been my help
 When I was sore oppress'd,
 My soul had surely in the house
 Of silence been at rest.
- 18 When I in straits despairing cried,
 ' My foot doth slip away,'
 Thy mercy held me up, O Lord,
 Thy goodness did me stay.
- 19 When many waves of brooding care
 O'er my faint spirit roll,
 Thy comforts then, most gracious God,
 Refresh and help my soul.
- 20 Shall evil-doers on the throne
 Have fellowship with thee ?
 That mischief cunningly contrived
 Do by a law decree.
- 21 Against the righteous souls they join,
 They guiltless blood condemn.
- 22 But of my refuge God 's the rock,
 And my defence from them.
- 23 On them their own iniquity
 The Lord shall vengeful lay,
 And cut them off in their own sin,
 Our Lord God shall them slay.

XCV.

- 1 O COME, let us sing to the Lord
A song of gladsome praise ;
A joyful noise unto the rock
Of our salvation raise.
- 2 Let us before his presence come
With praise and thankful voice ;
Let us sing psalms to him with grace,
And make a joyful noise.
- 3 For God a great God and great King,
Above all gods he is.
- 4 Depths of the earth are in his hand,
The strength of hills is his.
- 5 To him the spacious sea belongs,
For he the same did make ;
The dry land also from his hand,
Its form at first did take.
- 6 O come and let us worship him,
Let us bow down withal,
And on our knees before the Lord
Our Maker let us fall.
- 7 For he is our God, and we are
The people of his choice,
And of his hand the sheep. To-day
If ye will hear his voice,

- 8 Then harden not your hearts, as they
 At Meribah did chide ;
 As in the wilderness that day
 At Massah they me tried :
- 9 When me your fathers tempted, proved ;
 They did my working see :
- 10 Ev'n for the space of forty years
 This stubborn race grieved me.
- I said 'This people errs in heart,
 My ways they do not know :'
- 11 To whom I sware in wrath, that to
 My rest they should not go.

XCVI.

- 1 O SING a new song to the Lord,
 Sing all the earth to God.
- 2 To God sing, bless his name, show still
 His saving health abroad.
- 3 Among the nations of the earth
 His glory celebrate ;
 And to the people see that ye
 His wonders do relate.
- 4 For great's the Lord, and greatly he
 Is to be magnified :
 Yea, worthy to be fear'd is he
 Above all gods beside.

- 5 For all the gods are idols dumb,
 By blinded nations fear'd :
 But at the word of God the Lord
 The heavens at first appear'd.
- 6 Great honour is before his face,
 And majesty divine ;
 Strength is within his holy place
 And there doth beauty shine.
- 7 Do ye ascribe unto the Lord,
 Of people every tribe,
 Glory do ye unto the Lord,
 And mighty power ascribe.
- 8 Give ye the glory to the Lord
 That to his name is due ;
 Come ye into his courts, and bring
 An offering with you.
- 9 In festal robes of holiness
 O do the Lord adore ;
 Likewise let all the earth throughout
 Tremble his face before.
- 10 Among the heathen say, 'God reigns :'
 The world shall steadfastly
 Be fix'd from moving ; he shall judge
 The people righteously.
- 11 Let heavens be glad before the Lord,
 And let the earth rejoice ;
 Let seas, and all that is therein,
 Cry out and make a noise.

- 12 Let fields rejoice and every thing
That springeth of the earth ;
Then woods and every tree shall sing
With gladness and with mirth,
- 13 Before the Lord, because he comes ;
To judge the world comes he ;
He'll judge the world with righteousness,
The people faithfully.

XCVII.

- 1 GOD reigneth ; let the earth be glad
And isles rejoice each one.
- 2 Dark clouds him compass : justice, right
Are pillars of his throne.
- 3 Fire goes before him, and his foes
It burns up round about :
- 4 His lightnings lighten'd all the world ;
Earth saw and shook throughout.
- 5 In presence of earth's glorious Lord
Like wax melt mountains old.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness ;
His glory all behold.
- 7 Let all that graven images
Do serve be put to shame,
That do of idols boast. Ye gods,
Worship Jehovah's name.

- 8 Zion did hear and joyful was ;
 And Judah's daughters, glad
Because of all thy judgments, Lord,
 A great rejoicing had.
- 9 For thou, O Lord, art high above
 All things on earth that are ;
Above all other gods thou art
 Exalted very far.
- 10 Hate ill, all ye that love the Lord ;
 His saints' souls keepeth he ;
And from the hands of wicked men
 He sets them safe and free.
- 11 For all those that be righteous men
 Sown is a joyful light ;
And gladness sown is for all those
 That are in heart upright.
- 12 Ye righteous, in the Lord rejoice ;
 Express your thankfulness,
When ye into your memory
 Do call his holiness.

XCVIII.

- 1 O SING a new song to the Lord;
 For wonders he hath done ;
His right hand and his holy arm
 Him victory hath won.

-
- 2 The Lord our God his saving might
 Hath caused to be well known ;
 His justice in the heathen's sight
 He openly hath shown.
- 3 He mindful of his grace and truth
 To Israel's house hath been ;
 And the salvation of our God
 All ends of earth have seen.
- 4 Let all the earth aloud to him
 Send forth a joyful noise ;
 Lift up your voice aloud to him,
 Sing praises and rejoice.
- 5 With harp, with harp and voice of psalms,
 Unto Jehovah sing :
- 6 With trumpets, cornets, gladly sound
 Before the Lord the King.
- 7 Let seas and all their fulness roar ;
 The world and dwellers there :
- 8 Let floods applaud, and let the hills
 Together joy declare,
- 9 Before the Lord ; because he comes,
 To judge the world comes he ;
 He 'll judge the world with righteousness,
 His folk with equity.

XCIX.

- 1 TH' eternal Lord doth reign as King,
Let all the people quake ;
He sits between the cherubim,
Let earth's foundations shake.
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion ; high
Above all folk shall be :
- 3 Thy dreadful name let all men bless ;
The Holy One is he.
- 4 The King's strength also judgment loves ;
Thou settlest equity :
Just judgment thou dost execute
In Jacob righteously.
- 5 Do ye exalt the Lord our God ;
And reverently do ye
Before his footstool worship him :
The Holy One is he.
- 6 Moses and Aaron were his priests,
And Samuel did call
Upon his name : these call'd on God,
And he them answer'd all.
- 7 Within the pillar of the cloud
To them Jehovah spake ;
The testimonies he them taught,
And laws they did not break.

-
- 8 Thou answer'dst them, O Lord our God ;
 A pardoning God thou wert,
 Avenging their inventions too
 When they did thee desert.
- 9 Do ye exalt the Lord our God ;
 And reverently do ye
 Him worship at his holy hill :
 The Holy One is he.

C.

- 1 ALL people that on earth do dwell,
 Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
- 2 Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell ;
 Come ye before him and rejoice.
- 3 Know that the Lord is God indeed ;
 And his are we, he did us make :
 We are his flock, he doth us feed,
 And for his sheep he doth us take.
- 4 O enter then his gates with praise,
 Approach with joy his courts unto :
 Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
 For it is seemly so to do.
- 5 For why ? The Lord our God is good,
 His mercy is for ever sure ;
 His truth at all times firmly stood,
 And shall from age to age endure.

C I.

- 1 I MERCY will and judgment sing ;
Lord, I will sing to thee.
2 With wisdom in a perfect way
Shall my behaviour be.

O when in kindness unto me
Wilt thou be pleased to come ?
I with a perfect heart will walk
Within my house at home.

- 3 I will endure no wicked thing
Before mine eyes to be ;
I hate their work that turn aside,
It shall not cleave to me.

- 4 A stubborn and a froward heart
Away from me shall go ;
A person given to wickedness
I'm purposed not to know.


- 5 I'll cut off him that slandereth
His neighbour privily ;
The high look and the haughty heart
I will not bear near me.


- 6 Upon the faithful of the land
Mine eyes shall be, that they
May dwell with me : he shall me serve
That walks in perfect way.

-
- 7 Who of deceit a worker is
 In my house shall not dwell ;
 And in my presence shall he not
 Remain that lies doth tell.
- 8 Yea, all the wicked of the land
 I'll cut off day by day ;
 That from God's city evil men
 I may cast clean away.

CIL

- 1 LORD, hear my prayer, and let my cry
 Have speedy access unto thee ;
- 2 In day of my calamity
 O hide not thou thy face from me.
- Hear when I call to thee ; that day
 An answer speedily return :
- 3 My days like smoke consume away,
 And as a brand my bones do burn.
- 4 My heart is wounded very sore,
 And wither'd up, like fading grass ;
 My bread I care to eat no more,
 As weary days do o'er me pass.
- 5 By reason of my smart within,
 And voice of my most grievous groans,
 My flesh is wasted, and my skin
 All parch'd doth cleave unto my bones.

- 6 So, like the desert pelican,
 Or wailing owl I am grown ;
- 7 Restless and wakeful, pale and wan,
 As one that sits and mourns alone.
- 8 Reproach'd by my malicious foes,
 I all day long am made a scorn :
 The madmen that against me rose
 By my unhappy name have sworn.
- 9 For I have ashes eaten up,
 As happy men eat wholesome bread ;
 And when I drink, lo, in my cup
 Are bitter tears that I have shed.
- 10 Because thy dreadful anger blazed,
 And on me lay thy wrathful frown ;
 Because aloft thou hast me raised,
 And fierce again hast flung me down.
- 11 My days are like a shade away,
 Which doth declining swiftly pass ;
 And wither'd is my flesh away,
 Much like unto the fading grass.
- 12 But thou, O Lord, shalt still endure,
 From change and all mutation free ;
 And to all generations sure
 Shall thy remembrance ever be.
- 13 Thou shalt arise, and mercy yet
 Thou to Mount Zion shalt extend ;
 Her time for favour which was set,
 Behold, is now come to an end.
- 

-
- 14 Thy saints take pleasure in her stones,
Her very dust to them is dear.
- 15 All heathen lands and kingly thrones
On earth thy glorious name shall fear.
- 16 God in his glory shall appear,
When Zion he builds and repairs :
- 17 He shall regard and lend his ear
Unto the needy's humble prayers.
- Th' afflicted's prayer he will not scorn.
- 18 All times this shall be on record ;
And generations yet unborn
Shall praise and magnify the Lord.
- 19 He bent down from his awful throne,
The earth he view'd from heaven on high ;
- 20 To hear the prisoner's mourning groan,
And free them that are doom'd to die ;
- 21 That Zion and Jerusalem too
His name and praise may well record,
- 22 When people and the kingdoms do
Assemble all to praise the Lord.
- 23 My strength he weaken'd in the way,
My days of life seem'd wellnigh sped.
- 24 ' My God, O take me not away
In mid-time of my days,' I said :
- Thy years throughout all ages last.
- 25 Of old thou hast securely laid
The earth's foundations firm and fast ;
Thy mighty hands the heavens have made.
- 

- 26 They perish shall as garments do :
 But thou shalt evermore endure.
 As vestures thou shalt change them too,
 And they shall all be changèd sure :
- 27 But from all changes thou art free ;
 Thine endless years do last for aye.
- 28 Thy servants and their seed who be
 Establish'd shall before thee stay.

CIII.

- 1 O THOU my soul, bless God the Lord ;
 And all that is in me
 Be stirr'd up his most holy Name
 To worship joyfully.
- 2 Bless, O my soul, the Lord thy God,
 And not forgetful be
 Of all his gracious benefits
 He hath bestow'd on thee :
- 3 All thine iniquities who doth
 Most graciously forgive ;
 Who thy diseases all and pains
 Doth heal, and thee relieve :
- 4 Who doth redeem thy life, that thou
 To death mayst not go down ;
 Who thee with lovingkindness doth
 And tender mercies crown :

-
- 5 Who with abundance of good things
 Thy mouth doth satisfy ;
 And eagle-like unto thy youth
 New vigour doth supply.
- 6 God righteous judgment executes
 To all oppressèd ones.
- 7 His ways to Moses, he his acts
 Made known to Israel's sons.
- 8 The Lord our God is merciful,
 He's ever gracious found ;
 Long-suffering and slow to wrath,
 In mercy doth abound.
- 9 Against us he'll not always chide
 Nor keep his anger still.
- 10 With us he dealt not as we sinn'd,
 Nor did requite our ill.
- 11 For as the heaven in glorious height
 The earth surmounteth far,
 So great to those that do him fear
 His tender mercies are.
- 12 As far as east is distant from
 The west, so far hath he
 From us removed in his great love
 All our iniquity.
- 13 Such pity as a father hath
 Unto his children dear,
 Like pity shows the Lord to such
 As worship him in fear.
- 4


- 14 For he remembers we are dust,
And he our frame well knows.
- 15 Frail man, his days are like the grass,
As flower in field he grows :
- 16 For over it the wind doth pass,
And it away is flown ;
And of the place where once it was
It shall no more be known.
- 17 But unto them that do him fear
God's mercy never ends ;
And to their children's children still
His righteousness extends :
- 18 To such as keep his covenant,
And mindful are alway
Of the commandments he hath given,
That they may them obey.
- 19 The Lord God hath prepared his throne
In heavens firm to stand,
And every thing that being hath
His kingdom doth command.
- 20 O ye his angels, that excel
In strength, bless ye the Lord ;
Ye who obey what he commands,
And hearken to his word.
- 21 O bless and magnify the Lord,
Ye glorious hosts of his ;
Ye ministers that do fulfil
Whate'er his pleasure is.


-
- 22 O bless the Lord, all ye his works
 Wherewith the world is stored
 In his dominions everywhere.
 My soul, bless thou the Lord.

CIV.

- 1 BLESS God, my soul. O Lord my God,
 Thou art exceeding great ;
 With honour and with majesty
 Thou art enrobed in state.
- 2 With light as with a robe, thyself
 Thou coverest about ;
 And like unto a curtain thou
 The wide heavens stretchest out.
- 3 Who of his chambers doth the beams
 Within the waters lay ;
 Who doth the clouds his chariot make,
 On wings of wind make way.
- 4 Who bids the winds as messengers
 Sweep onward in his name ;
 And of his will the minister
 Doth make the fiery flame.
- 5 Who the foundations of the earth
 Did lay out broad and sure,
 That firm before him it might stand
 And evermore endure.

- 6 Thou didst it cover with the deep,
 As with a garment spread ;
 The waters stood above the hills,
 And hid their proudest head.
- 7 But at the voice of thy rebuke
 They fled and would not stay ;
 They at thy thunder's dreadful voice
 Did haste them fast away :
- 8 (Mountains now raising fast their heads,
 And valleys sinking low,)
 Till to the place thou hast for them
 Appointed they do go.
- 9 Thou hast a bound unto them set
 O'er which they may not go,
 Lest they again returning should
 Earth's fair face overflow.
- 10 To brooks he makes the fountains swell
 To run among the hills ;
- 11 The wild beasts of the field their thirst
 Quench at the cooling rills :
- 12 While over them the branches hang,
 Where in their tiny nest
 Dwell birds of heaven, by whose sweet note
 God's praises are express'd.
- 13 He from his chambers watereth
 The hills when they are dry ;
 And with his own refreshing rain
 The earth doth satisfy.


-
- 14 For cattle he makes grass to grow ;
 He makes the herb to spring
 For use of man, that food to him
 He from the earth may bring ;
- 15 With wine that cheers the heart of man,
 And lightens up his face
 More than rich oil ; and bread his heart
 With manly strength to brace.
- 16 The trees of God are full of sap ;
 The cedars that do stand
 In Lebanon, which planted were
 By his almighty hand.
- 17 Birds of the air upon their boughs
 Are fain their nests to make ;
 As for the stork, the fir-tree she
 Doth for her dwelling take.
- 18 The lofty mountains for wild goats
 A place of refuge be ;
 The conies also to the rocks
 Do for their safety flee.
- 19 He set the moon in heaven, the time
 Of sacred feasts to show ;
 From him the sun his certain hour
 Of going down doth know.
- 20 Thou darkness mak'st, 'tis night ; then beasts
 Of forest creep abroad.
- 21 The lions young roar for their prey,
 And seek their meat from God.
- 

- 22 The sun doth rise, and home they flock,
 Down in their dens they lie.
- 23 Man goes to work, his labour he
 Doth to the evening ply.
- 24 How manifold, Lord, are thy works !
 In wisdom wonderful
Thou every one of them hast made ;
 Earth's of thy riches full :
- 25 So is the great and spacious sea,
 Wherein do congregate
Innumerable creeping things,
 And beasts both small and great.
- 26 There go the ships : leviathan
 Thou mad'st therein to play.
- 27 All wait on thee, and thou them giv'st
 Their food from day to day.
- 28 Thou givest them abundantly,
 They gather in their food ;
Thou openest thy bounteous hand,
 And they are fill'd with good.
- 29 Thou hid'st thy face, they troubled are ;
 Their breath thou tak'st away,
Then they do die, and to their dust
 Return again do they.
- 30 Thy quickening spirit thou send'st forth,
 Then they created be ;
And then the earth's decaying face
 Is fresh renew'd by thee.
- 

- 31 The glory of the mighty Lord
Continue shall for aye ;
The Lord Jehovah shall rejoice
In his great works alway.
- 32 Earth, as affrighted, trembleth all
Beneath his piercing eyes :
The hills he toucheth, and forthwith
Their smoke to heaven doth rise.
- 33 I will sing to the Lord most high
As long as I do live ;
And while I being have I will
To my God praises give.
- 34 To this my song may he be pleased
Acceptance to accord :
And as for me, I will rejoice
In God my only Lord.
- 35 From earth let sinners be consumed ;
Let ill men no more be.
O thou my soul, bless thou the Lord.
Praise to the Lord give ye.


CV.

- 1 GIVE thanks to God ; his deeds make known
To men ; call on his name.
- 2 Sing ye to him, sing psalms ; and all
His wondrous works proclaim.

- 3 See that ye in his holy name
 To glory do accord ;
 And let the heart of every one
 Rejoice that seeks the Lord.
- 4 The Lord almighty and his strength
 With steadfast hearts seek ye ;
 His blessed and his gracious face
 Seek ye unfailingly.
- 5 Think on the works that he hath done,
 Which admiration breed ;
 His wonders and the judgments all
 Which from his mouth proceed.
- 6 O ye that are of Abram's race,
 His servant tried and known ;
 And ye that Jacob's children are,
 Whom he chose for his own.
- 7 Because he and he only is
 The mighty Lord our God ;
 And his most righteous judgments are
 In all the earth abroad.
- 8 His cov'nant he remember'd hath,
 That it may ever stand :
 To thousand generations yet
 The word he did command.
- 9 Which he did make with Abraham,
 And unto Isaac swore ;
- 10 Confirm'd to Jacob for a law
 To last for evermore.
- 


- 11 He promised, 'I'll give Canaan's land
For heritage to you ;'
12 While they were strangers there, and few,
In number very few.
- 13 While having no abiding place,
They went from land to land ;
And while through sundry kingdoms they
Roam'd like a wandering band.
- 14 Yet, notwithstanding suffer'd he
No man to do them wrong :
Yea, for their sakes he did reprove
Kings who were great and strong.
- 15 Thus did he say, 'Touch ye not those
That mine anointed be ;
Nor do the people any harm
That are inspired by me.'
- 16 He called for famine on the land,
He brake the staff of bread :
17 While he had sent a man before,
By whom they should be fed :
- Ev'n Joseph, whom in hatred blind
Sell for a slave did they ;
18 Whose feet in fetters they did hurt,
And he in irons lay.
- 19 Until the word that Joseph spake
In sight of all came true ;
Till God's word did his servant prove,
And crown with honour due.

- 20 Then sent the king and did command
 That he enlarged should be ;
 He that the people's ruler was
 Did send to set him free.
- 21 A lord to rule his family
 He raised him, as most fit ;
 To him of all that he possess'd
 He did the charge commit :
- 22 That he might at his pleasure bind
 The princes of the land ;
 And he might teach his senators
 Wisdom to understand.
- 23 The people then of Israël
 Down into Egypt went ;
 And Jacob in the land of Ham
 A while set up his tent.
- 24 And he did greatly by his power
 Increase his people there ;
 And stronger than their enemies
 They by his blessing were.
- 25 Their heart he turn'd aside to hate
 His folk maliciously ;
 With those that his own servants were
 To deal in subtilty.
- 26 His servant Moses he did send,
 Aaron his chosen one :
- 27 By whom great signs in land of Ham
 In his name then were done.


-
- 28 Darkness he sent and made it dark,
 His word they did obey.
- 29 He turn'd their waters into blood,
 And he their fish did slay.
- 30 The land in plenty brought forth frogs
 In chambers of their kings.
- 31 His word all sorts of flies and lice
 In all their borders brings.
- 32 He hail for rain, and flaming fire
 Into their land did send :
- 33 Their vines and fig-trees he did smite ;
 Trees of their coast did rend.
- 34 He spake and caterpillars came,
 Locusts did much abound ;
- 35 Which in their land all herbs consumed,
 And all fruits of their ground.
- 36 He smote all first-born in their land,
 Hope of their strength each one :
- 37 With gold and silver brought them forth,
 Weak in their tribes were none.
- 38 Egypt was glad when forth they went,
 Their fear on them did light.
- 39 He spread a cloud for covering,
 And fire to shine by night.
- 40 They ask'd, and he brought quails : the bread
 Of heav'n did mortals taste.
- 41 He open'd rocks, floods gush'd, and ran
 In places dry and waste.
- 

- 42 For on his holy promise he
Unto his servant thought ;
43 With joy his people, his elect
With gladness forth he brought.
- 44 He gave them for a dwelling-place
The heathen's pleasant lands ;
And they inherited the work
Of other people's hands ;
- 45 That they his statutes might observe
According to his word,
And that they might his laws obey.
Give praise unto the Lord.

CVI.


- 1 GIVE praise and thanks unto the Lord,
For bountiful is he :
His tender mercy doth endure
Unto eternity.
- 2 God's mighty works who can express,
Or show forth all his praise ?
3 Blessed are they that judgment keep,
And justly do always.
- 4 Remember me, Lord, with that love
Thou bearest unto thine ;
With thy salvation, O my God,
To visit me incline.
- 

-
- 5 That I thy chosen's good may see,
 And in their joy rejoice ;
And may with thine inheritance
 Exult with cheerful voice.
- 6 We with our fathers all have sinn'd,
 And of iniquity
Too long we have the workers been ;
 We have done wickedly.
- 7 The wonders great which thou, O Lord,
 Didst work in Egypt land,
Our fathers, though they saw, yet them
 They did not understand.
- And they thy former mercies great
 Kept not in memory ;
But at the sea, ev'n the Red Sea,
 Provoked him grievously.
- 8 Nevertheless he saved them then,
 Ev'n for his own name's sake ;
That so he might to be well known
 His mighty power make.
- 9 When he the Red Sea did rebuke,
 Then dry it was straightway ;
Through depths as through the wilderness
 A safe road for them lay.
- 10 From hands of those that hated them
 He did his people save ;
And from the hand of enemies
 To them redemption gave.

- 11 The waters overwhelm'd their foes,
 No one was left to live.
- 12 Then they believed his word, and praise
 To him in songs did give.
- 13 But soon again they did forget,
 On his will did not wait :
- 14 They tried him in the wilderness
 With many lusts and great.
- 15 So when they tempted him, he gave
 Whate'er they lustful sought ;
And on their souls a sore disease
 Which did consume them brought.
- 16 They envied Moses in the camp,
 And did his rule oppose ;
Aaron also the priest of God,
 Whom for his priest he chose.
- 17 Therefore the earth did open wide,
 And Dathan did devour ;
And all Abiram's company
 Did cover in that hour.
- 18 Likewise among their company
 A fire was kindled then ;
And so the hot consuming flame
 Burnt up those wicked men.
- 19 Upon the hill of Horeb they
 An idol calf did frame ;
A molten image they did make,
 And bow'd down to the same.
- 

-
- 20 Thus they who knew the Lord most high
 Their glory turn'd to shame,
 The while in shape of browsing ox
 Their godhead they did frame.
- 21 They did forget the mighty God
 That had their saviour been,
 By whom such great things brought to pass
 They had in Egypt seen.
- 22 In Ham's land he did wondrous works,
 Things terrible did he,
 When he his mighty hand and arm
 Stretch'd out at the Red Sea.
- 23 Then said he, he would them destroy ;
 Had not, his wrath to stay,
 His chosen Moses stood in breach,
 That he them should not slay.
- 24 Yea, they despised the pleasant land,
 They trusted not his word :
- 25 But in their tents they murmur'd loud,
 Not hearkening to the Lord.
- 26 Therefore in desert them to slay
 He lifted up his hand :
- 27 'Mong nations to o'erthrow their seed,
 And scatter in each land.
- 28 With Baal-peor's worshippers
 They did themselves unite ;
 The sacrifices of the dead
 They offer'd with delight.


- 29 Thus by their lewd idolatry
 They did provoke his ire ;
 And then upon them suddenly
 The plague brake in as fire.
- 30 Then Phin'has rose, and justice did,
 The plague then ceased to rage ;
- 31 For righteousness that counted was
 To each succeeding age.
- 32 And at the waters where they strove
 They did him angry make,
 In such a sort that it went ill
 With Moses for their sake.
- 33 Because they then his spirit meek
 Provoked so bitterly,
 That he with his well-guarded lips
 Spake unadvisedly.
- 34 Nor, as the Lord commanded them,
 Did they the nations slay :
- 35 But with the heathen mingled were,
 And learn'd of them their way.
- 36 And they their idols served, which did
 A snare unto them turn.
- 37 To devils they their boys and girls
 In sacrifice did burn.
- 38 In their own children's guiltless blood
 They did their hands imbrue,
 Whom they to Canaan's idols vile
 For sacrifices slew :

- 39 So was the land defiled with blood.
 They stain'd with their own way,
 And with inventions of their own
 A-whoring they did stray.
- 40 Against his people kindled was
 The wrath of God therefore,
 Insomuch that he did his own
 Inheritance abhor.
- 41 He gave them to the heathen's hand ;
 Their foes did them command.
- 42 Their foes oppress'd them, and they were
 Made subject to their hand.
- 43 He many times deliver'd them ;
 But with their counsel so
 They him provoked, that for their sin
 They were brought very low.
- 44 Yet their affliction he beheld,
 When he their crying heard ;
- 45 And he his covenant for them
 Remembering did regard ;
- After his mercies' multitude
- 46 He did repent. And they
 Found mercy in the sight of those
 That carried them away.
- 47 O Lord our Saviour, gather us
 The heathen from among,
 That we thy holy name may praise
 In a triumphant song.
- 

- 48 Bless'd be Jehovah, Israel's God,
 To all eternity :
 Let all the people say, Amen.
 Praise to the Lord give ye.

CVII.

- 1 PRAISE God, for he is good ; for still
 His mercies lasting be.
2 Let God's redeem'd say so, whom he
 From their foe's hand did free ;
3 And gather'd them out of the lands,
 From north, south, east, and west.
4 They stray'd in desert's pathless way,
 No city found to rest.
5 For thirst and hunger pined their soul
 Within them wretchedly.
6 In trouble then they cried to God,
 And he did set them free.
7 Them also in a way to walk
 That right is he did guide,
 That they might to a city go
 Wherein they might abide.
8 O that men to the Lord would give
 Praise for his goodness then,
 And for his works of wonder done
 Unto the sons of men !

-
- 9 For surely he the longing soul
 Doth fully satisfy ;
 The hungry soul he ever fills
 With goodness from on high.
- 10 Such as shut up in darkness deep,
 And in death's shade abide,
 Whom strongly hath affliction bound,
 And irons fast have tied.
- 11 Because against the words of God
 They stubbornly rebell'd ;
 The counsel wise of God most high
 They for a byword held.
- 12 Their heart he did bring down with grief,
 They fell, no help could see.
- 13 In trouble then they cried to God,
 And he did set them free.
- 14 He out of darkness did them bring,
 And from death's shade them take ;
 Those bands wherewith they had been bound
 Asunder quite he brake.
- 15 O that men to the Lord would give
 Praise for his goodness then,
 And for his works of wonder done
 Unto the sons of men.
- 16 Because the mighty gates of brass
 In pieces he did tear ;
 By him asunder also cut
 The bars of iron were.
- 

-
- 17 Fools for their sin and their offence
In sore affliction sigh ;
- 18 All kind of meat their soul abhors ;
They to death's gates draw nigh.
- 19 In trouble then they cried to God,
And he did set them free.
- 20 He sent his word and heal'd them all,
That they from death might flee.
- 21 O that men to the Lord would give
Praise for his goodness then,
And for his works of wonder done
Unto the sons of men !
- 22 And let them sacrifice to him
Off'rings of thankfulness ;
And let them show abroad his works
In songs of joyfulness.
- 23 Who go to sea in ships, and in
Great waters trading be,
- 24 Within the deep these men God's works
And his great wonders see.
- 25 For he commands and forth in haste
The stormy tempest flies,
Which makes the sea with rolling waves
Aloft to swell and rise.
- 26 They mount to heaven, then to the depths
They do go down again ;
Their soul doth faint and melt away
With trouble and with pain.

-
- 27 They reel and stagger like one drunk,
 At their wit's end they be.
- 28 In trouble then they cry to God
 And he doth set them free.
- 29 The storm is changed into a calm
 At his command and will ;
 So that the waves which raged before
 Now quiet are and still.
- 30 Then are they glad because at rest
 And quiet now they be :
 So to the haven he them brings
 Which they desired to see.
- 31 O that men to the Lord would give
 Praise for his goodness then,
 And for his works of wonder done
 Unto the sons of men !
- 32 In congregation of his folk,
 Let them exalt his name ;
 Among assembled elders spread
 His most renowned fame.
- 33 He water-springs to dry land turns
 And floods to wilderness ;
- 34 For sins of those that dwell therein
 Fat land to barrenness.
- 35 The burnt and barren wilderness
 To water-pools he brings ;
 The ground that was dried up before
 He turns to water-springs.

- 36 And there for dwelling he a place
Doth to the hungry give ;
That they a city may prepare
Wherein they all may live.
- 37 There sow they fields and vineyards plant,
To yield fruits of increase.
- 38 His blessing makes them multiply,
Lets not their herds decrease.
- 39 Again they are diminish'd much,
And brought down very low ;
Through sorrow and affliction great
Which over them doth go.
- 40 He upon princes pours contempt,
And causeth them to stray,
And wander in a wilderness
Wherein there is no way.
- 41 Yet setteth he the poor on high
From all his miseries,
And like a very fruitful flock
Doth make him families.
- 42 They that are righteous shall rejoice
When they the same shall see ;
And as ashamed, iniquity
Shall then all silent be.
- 43 Whoso is wise and will these things
Observe and them record,
Ev'n they shall understand the love
And favour of the Lord.

CVIII.

- 1 MY heart is fix'd, my heart is fix'd,
O God, I'll sing and praise ;
- 2 My glory, wake ; wake, psalt'ry, harp,
Myself I'll early raise.
- 3 I'll praise thee 'mong the people, Lord,
'Mong nations sing will I ;
- 4 For great to heaven thy mercy is,
Thy truth is to the sky.
- 5 Be thou exalted very high
Above the heavens, O God ;
And let thy glory be advanced
O'er all the earth abroad.
- 6 That thy belovèd people may
Deliver'd be from thrall,
Save with the power of thy right hand,
And hear me when I call.
- 7 God in his sanctuary spake,
'Herein I will take pleasure ;
Shechem I will divide, and forth
Will Succoth's valley measure.
- 'Gilead I claim as mine by right,
Manasseh mine shall be ;
Ephraim is of mine head the helm ;
Judah, my sceptre he.


- 9 ' Moab's my washing-pot, my shoe
I'll over Edom throw ;
Over the land of Philistines
I will in triumph go.'
- 10 O who is he will bring me to
A city fortified ?
O who is he that to the land
Of Edom will me guide ?
- 11 Who will do this ? Alas ! for us
Cast off, O God, hast thou ;
And when our hosts go forth to war,
Thou art not with them now.
- 12 Help us against our enemies,
For human help is vain.
- 13 Through God, who shall tread down our foes,
We'll fight with might and main.

CIX.

- 1 O THOU, the God of all my praise
Do thou not hold thy peace ;
- 2 For mouths of wicked men to speak
Against me do not cease :

The mouths of vile deceitful men
Against me open'd be ;
And with a false and lying tongue
They have upbraided me.


- 3 They did beset me round about
 With words of hateful spite ;
 And though to them no cause I gave,
 Against me they did fight.
- 4 They for my love became my foes,
 But I set me to pray.
- 5 Evil for good, hatred for love,
 To me they did repay.
- 6 Set thou the wicked over him ;
 And upon his right hand
 Give thou his adversary leave
 Accusing him to stand.
- 7 And when by thee he shall be judged,
 Let him convicted be ;
 And let his prayer be turn'd to sin,
 When he shall call on thee.
- 8 Few be his days, and in his room
 His charge another take.
- 9 His children make thou fatherless,
 His wife a widow make.
- 10 Yea, let his children beggars be,
 Wandering throughout the land ;
 And, from their ruin'd homes driv'n forth,
 Seek bread from strangers' hand.
- 11 Let covetous extortioners
 Catch all he hath away ;
 Of all for which he labour'd hard
 Let strangers make a prey.

-
- 12 Let there be none to pity him,
Let there be none at all
That on his children fatherless
Will let his mercy fall.
- 13 Let his posterity from earth
Cut off for ever be ;
And in the following age their name
Be blotted out by thee.
- 14 Let God his father's wickedness
Still to remembrance call ;
And never let his mother's sin
Be blotted out at all.
- 15 But let them all before the Lord
Appear incessantly,
That he may wholly from the earth
Cut off their memory.
- 16 Because he mercy minded not,
But persecuted still
The poor and needy, that he might
The broken-hearted kill.
- 17 As he in cursing pleasure took,
So let it to him fall ;
As he delighted not to bless,
So bless him not at all.
- 18 As cursing he like clothes put on,
Into his bowels so,
Like water, and into his bones,
Like oil, down let it go.
- 

- 19 Like to the garment let it be
Which doth himself array,
And for a girdle wherewith he
Is girt about alway.
- 20 From God let this be their reward
That hostile are to me,
And their reward that speak against
My soul maliciously.
- 21 But do thou, for thine own name's sake,
O God, the Lord, for me ;
Sith good and sweet thy mercy is,
From trouble set me free.
- 22 For I am poor and indigent,
And I am sore distress'd,
My heart is hurt exceedingly,
And fails within my breast.
- 23 I pass like a declining shade,
Am like a locust tost :
- 24 My knees through fasting weaken'd are,
My flesh hath fatness lost.
- 25 I also am a vile reproach
Unto them made to be ;
And they that did upon me look
Did shake their heads at me.
- 26 O do thou help and succour me,
Who art my God and Lord :
And, for thy tender mercy's sake,
Safety to me afford :


- 27 That thereby they may know that this
 Is thy almighty hand ;
 And that thou, Lord, hast done the same,
 They may well understand.
- 28 Although they curse with spite, yet, Lord,
 Bless thou with loving voice :
 Let them be shamed when they arise ;
 Thy servant will rejoice.
- 29 Let thou mine adversaries be
 With shame enveloped all ;
 Let their confusion cover them
 All over like a pall.
- 30 But as for me, I with my mouth
 Will greatly praise the Lord ;
 And I among the multitude
 His praises will record.
- 31 For at the right hand of the poor
 He shall an helper stand ;
 And from those that would judge his soul
 Deliverance command.

CX.

- 1 THE LORD did say unto my Lord,
 'Sit thou at my right hand,
 Until I make thy foes a stool
 Whereon thy feet may stand.'
- 

-
- 2 The rod of thy great power he
 Shall out of Zion send ;
 And over all thine enemies
 Thy empire shall extend.
- 3 When with thy host thou marchest forth,
 Thy folk shall willing be ;
 In holy splendour, like morn's dew,
 Thy youth shall flock to thee.
- 4 The Lord himself hath made an oath
 Which shall unbroken stay :
 ' Lo, now like Salem's righteous king,
 Thou art a priest for aye.'
- 5 The glorious and mighty Lord
 Shall then at thy right hand,
 In day of his great power, strike through
 Kings that do him withstand.
- 6 Among the heathen he shall judge ;
 He shall with bodies dead
 The places fill : o'er many lands
 He wound shall every head.
- 7 He stoops a moment, takes a draught
 From brooklet by the way ;
 Then rising up, refresh'd, completes
 The triumph of the day.

CXI.

- 1 PRAISE ye the Lord ; with my whole heart
I will declare God's praise,
In the assembly of the just
My song to him I'll raise.
 - 2 The whole works of the Lord our God
Are very good and right ;
Sought out they are of every one
That doth therein delight.
 - 3 His work most honourable is,
Most glorious and pure ;
And his untainted righteousness
For ever doth endure.
 - 4 His work most wonderful he hath
Caused to be kept in mind ;
The Lord is gracious, and he is
Most pitiful and kind.
 - 5 He giveth meat unto all those
That fear him and adore ;
And he his holy covenant
Remembers evermore.
 - 6 He did the power of his works
Unto his people show,
When he the heathen's heritage
Upon them did bestow.
- 

- 7 His handiworks are truth and right ;
All his commands are sure :
- 8 And, done in truth and uprightness,
They evermore endure.
- 9 He sent redemption to his folk ;
His covenant for aye
He did command ; holy his name
And reverend is alway.
- 10 Wisdom's beginning is God's fear :
Good understanding they
Have all that his commands fulfil :
His praise endures for aye.

CXII.


- 1 PRAISE ye the Lord. The man is blest
That fears the Lord aright ;
And that in his commandments doth
Place his supreme delight.
- 2 His seed and offspring full of power
He on the earth shall see ;
The generation of good men
Shall ever blessed be.
- 3 Riches and wealth shall ever be
Within his house in store ;
And his unspotted righteousness
Endures for evermore.

- 4 Unto the upright light doth rise
 Though he in darkness be ;
Compassionate and merciful,
 Righteous also is he.
- 5 Blest is the man that favour shows,
 And doth to others lend ;
He with discretion his affairs
 Will guide unto the end.
- 6 Surely there is not any thing
 That ever shall him move ;
The righteous man's memorial
 Shall everlasting prove.
- 7 When he shall evil tidings hear,
 He shall not be afraid ;
His heart is fix'd, his confidence
 Upon the Lord is stay'd.
- 8 His heart is stablished steadfastly,
 Afraid he shall not be,
Until upon his enemies
 He his desire shall see.
- 9 He hath dispersed, given to the poor ;
 For aye his righteousness
Shall be remember'd ; raised shall be
 His horn in nobleness.
- 10 The wicked shall it see, and fret,
 His teeth gnash, melt away :
What wicked men do most desire
 Shall utterly decay.


CXIII.

- 1 PRAISE God ! ye servants of the Lord,
O praise, the Lord's name praise.
- 2 Yea, blessed be the name of God
From this time forth always.
- 3 From rising sun to where it sets,
God's name is to be praised :
- 4 Above all nations God is high,
'Bove heaven his glory raised.
- 5 Who to the Lord our God, that dwells
On high, can liken'd be ?
- 6 Himself that humbleth things that are
In heaven and earth to see.
- 7 He from the dust and dunghill takes
The poor to set on high ;
- 8 The needy he doth much advance,
Makes him with princes vie.
- 9 The barren woman house to keep
He maketh, and to be
Of sons a mother full of joy.
Praise to the Lord give ye.

CXIV.

- 1 WHEN Israel out of Egypt went
 And did his dwelling change,
 When Jacob's house went out from those
 That were of language strange,
- 2 For sanctuary and for rule
 Was Judah to him given.
- 3 The sea it saw and quickly fled,
 Then back was Jordan driven.
- 4 Like rams the mountains, and like lambs
 The hills skipp'd to and fro.
- 5 O sea, why fledd'st thou ? Jordan, back
 Why wast thou driven so ?
- 6 Ye mountains great, wherefore was it
 That ye did skip like rams ?
 And wherefore was it, little hills,
 That ye did leap like lambs ?
- 7 Oh, at the presence of the Lord,
 Earth, tremble thou for fear,
 While as the presence of the God
 Of Jacob doth appear :
- 8 Who from the hard and barren rock
 Did copious water bring ;
 And by his power did turn the flint
 Into a running spring.
- 

CXV.

- 1 NOT unto us, Lord, not to us,
 But do thou glory take
Unto thy name, ev'n for thy truth,
 And for thy mercy's sake.
- 2 O wherefore should the heathen say,
 'Where is their god now gone ?'
3 But our God in the heaven is ;
 What pleased him he hath done.
- 4 Their idols silver are and gold,
 Work of men's hands they be.
5 Mouths have they, but they do not speak,
 And eyes, but do not see.
- 6 Ears have they, but they do not hear ;
 Noses, but do not smell ;
7 Hands without feeling, moveless feet ;
 Mouths that no tale can tell.
- 8 Their makers, and who trust in them,
 Shall like those idols be.
9 O Israel, trust thou in the Lord ;
 Their help and shield is he.
- 10 O Aaron's house, trust in the Lord ;
 Their help and shield is he.
11 Ye that fear God, trust in the Lord ;
 Their help and shield is he.
- 

- 12 The Lord of us hath mindful been,
 And he will bless us still ;
 He will the house of Israel bless,
 Bless Aaron's house he will.
- 13 He will them bless that fear the Lord
 Of low and high degree.
- 14 The Lord will bless you, and increased
 Your children ye shall see.
- 15 O blessèd are ye of the Lord,
 Who heaven and earth design'd.
- 16 Heaven is for God ; but earth he gave
 For dwelling to mankind.
- 17 The dead nor who to silence go
 God's praise do not record :
- 18 But henceforth we for ever will
 Bless God. Praise ye the Lord.


CXVI.

- 1 I LOVE the Lord, because my voice
 And prayers he did hear.
- 2 I while I live will call on him
 Who bow'd to me his ear.
- 3 Of death the cords and sorrows did
 About me compass round ;
 The pains of hell took hold on me,
 I grief and trouble found.

-
- 4 Upon the name of God the Lord
 Then did I call and say,
 ‘Deliver thou my soul, O Lord,
 I do thee humbly pray.’
- 5 God merciful and righteous is,
 Yea, gracious is our Lord.
- 6 God saves the meek ; I was brought low ;
 He did me help afford.
- 7 O thou my soul, do thou return
 Unto thy quiet rest ;
 For largely, lo, the Lord to thee
 His bounty hath express’d.
- 8 For my afflicted soul from death
 Deliver’d was by thee ;
 Thou didst my mourning eyes from tears,
 My feet from falling free.
- 9 I in the land of those that live
 Will walk the Lord before.
- 10 I did believe, whenas I spake ;
 I was afflicted sore.
- 11 I said, when I was in sore straits,
 That all men liars be.
- 12 What shall I render to the Lord
 For all his gifts to me ?
- 13 I’ll of salvation take the cup ;
 On God’s name will I call.
- 14 I’ll pay my vows now to the Lord
 Before his people all.


- 15 Dear in God's sight is his saints' death.
16 Thy servant, Lord, am I ;
Thy servant sure, thine handmaid's son :
My bands thou didst untie.
- 17 Thank-offerings I to thee will give,
And on God's name will call.
18 I'll pay my vows now to the Lord
Before his people all,
- 19 Within the courts of God's own house,
Within the midst of thee,
O city of Jerusalem.
Praise to the Lord give ye.

CXVII.

- 1 O GIVE ye praise unto the Lord,
Ye nations everywhere ;
Likewise, ye people all, accord
His glory to declare.
- 2 For great to us-ward ever are
His lovingkindnesses ;
His truth endures for evermore.
The Lord O do ye bless.
- 

CXVIII.

- 1 O PRAISE the Lord, for he is good ;
His mercy lasts always.
- 2 Let those of Israël now say,
' His mercy lasts always.'
- 3 Now let the house of Aaron say,
' His mercy lasts always.'
- 4 Let those that fear the Lord now say,
' His mercy lasts always.'
- 5 I in distress call'd on the Lord ;
The Lord did answer me :
He in a large place did me set,
From trouble made me free.
- 6 The mighty Lord is on my side,
I will not be afraid ;
For anything that man can do
I shall not be dismay'd.
- 7 The Lord doth take my part ; he is
With them that succour me ;
Therefore on those that do me hate
I my desire shall see.
- 8 Better it is to trust in God
Than trust in man's defence ;
- 9 Better to trust in God than make
Princes our confidence

- 10 The nations joining all in one
 Did compass me about :
 But in the Lord's most holy name
 I will them all root out.
- 11 They compass'd me about, I say,
 They compass'd me about ;
 But in the Lord's most holy name
 I will them all root out.
- 12 Quench'd like a fire of thorns are they,
 Like bees that swarm'd about ;
 For in the Lord's most holy name
 I will them all root out.
- 13 Thou sore hast thrust, that I might fall,
 But my Lord succour'd me.
- 14 God my salvation is become,
 My strength and song is he.
- 15 In dwellings of the righteous folk
 Is heard the melody
 Of joy and health : the Lord's right hand
 Doth ever valiantly.
- 16 The right hand of the mighty Lord
 Is lifted gloriously ;
 The right hand of the mighty Lord
 Doth ever valiantly.
- 17 I shall not die, but live, and shall
 God's works yet call to mind.
- 18 The Lord hath sorely chastened me,
 But not to death consign'd.
- 

- 19 O set ye open unto me
The gates of righteousness ;
Then will I enter into them,
And I the Lord will bless.
- 20 This is the gate of God, by it
The just shall enter in.
- 21 Thee will I praise, for thou me heardst
And hast my safety been.
- 22 That stone is made head corner-stone
Which builders did despise :
- 23 This is the doing of the Lord,
And wondrous in our eyes.
- 24 This is the day God made, in it
We'll joy triumphantly.
- 25 Save now, I pray thee, Lord ; I pray,
Send now prosperity.
- 26 Blessèd is he in God's great name
That cometh us to save :
We from the house that to the Lord
Pertains you blessing gave.
- 27 God is the Lord, who unto us
Hath made light to arise :
Bind ye unto the altar's horns
With cords the sacrifice.
- 28 Thou art my God, I'll thee exalt ;
My God, I will thee praise.
Give thanks to God, for he is good :
His mercy lasts always.

CXIX.

I.

- 1 BLESSED are they that undefiled
And straight are in the way ;
Who in the Lord's most holy law
Do walk, and do not stray.
- 2 Blessèd are they who to observe
His statutes are inclined ;
And who do seek the living God
With their whole heart and mind.
- 3 Such in his ways do walk, and they
Do no iniquity.
- 4 Thou hast commanded us to keep
Thy precepts carefully.
- 5 O that thy statutes to observe
Thou wouldst my ways direct !
- 6 Then shall I not be shamed when I
Thy precepts all respect.
- 7 Then with integrity of heart
Thee will I praise and bless,
When I the judgments all have learn'd
Of thy pure righteousness.
- 8 That I will keep thy statutes all,
I'm purposed steadfastly :
O do not thou, most gracious God,
Forsake me utterly.

II.

- 9 By what means shall a young man learn
To purify his way ?
Thereto according to thy word
Let him give heed alway.
- 10 Unfeignedly thee have I sought
With all my soul and heart :
O let me not from the right path
Of thy commands depart.
- 11 Thy word I in my heart have hid,
That I offend not thee.
- 12 O Lord, thou ever blessed art,
Thy statutes teach thou me.
- 13 My lips the judgments have declared
Which from thy mouth did fall :
- 14 Thy testimonies' way gave me
More joy than riches all.
- 15 I will thy holy precepts still
My meditation make ;
And of thy righteous ways each one
Much thought I'll always take.
- 16 Upon thy statutes my delight
Shall constantly be set ;
And by thy grace I never will
Thy holy word forget.

III.

- 17 With me thy servant in thy grace
Deal bountifully, Lord ;
That by thy favour I may live,
And duly keep thy word.
- 18 Open mine eyes, that of thy law
The wonders I may see.
- 19 I am a stranger on this earth,
Hide not thy laws from me.
- 20 My soul within me breaks, and doth
Much fainting still endure,
Through longing that it hath all times
Unto thy judgments pure.
- 21 Thou hast rebuked the cursèd proud,
Who from thy precepts swerve.
- 22 Reproach and shame remove from me,
For I thy laws observe.
- 23 In council sitting against me
Spake princes high and great :
But I thy servant did upon
Thy statutes meditate.
- 24 My comfort and my heart's delight
Thy testimonies be :
And they, in all my doubts and fears,
Are counsellors to me.

IV.

- 25 My soul to dust cleaves ; quicken me
According to thy word.
- 26 My ways I show'd, and me thou heardst :
Teach me thy statutes, Lord.
- 27 The way of thy commandments sure
Make me aright to know ;
So all thy works that wondrous are
I shall to others show.
- 28 My soul doth melt and drop away,
For heaviness and grief :
To me, according to thy word,
Give strength and send relief.
- 29 O let the wicked way of lies
Removed far from me be ;
And graciously thy holy law
Do thou grant unto me.
- 30 The way of truth I freely chose,
That there my path should lie ;
Thy judgments that most righteous are
Before me laid have I.
- 31 I to thy testimonies cleave ;
Shame do not on me cast.
- 32 I'll run thy precepts' way, whenas
My heart enlarged thou hast.

V.

- 33 Teach me, O Lord, the perfect way
Of thy precepts divine ;
And to observe it to the end
I shall my heart incline.
- 34 If thou but deignest from above
True wisdom to impart ;
Then I shall carefully observe
Thy law with all my heart.
- 35 Conduct me, for 'tis my delight,
In thy law's path divine.
- 36 My heart unto thy holy laws
And not to greed incline.
- 37 Turn thou away my curious eyes
From viewing vanity ;
And in thy good and holy law
Be pleased to quicken me.
- 38 Confirm to me thy gracious word
Which I did gladly hear,
E'vn to thy servant, Lord, who is
Devoted to thy fear.
- 39 Turn thou away my fear'd reproach ;
For good thy judgments be.
- 40 Lo, for thy precepts I have long'd ;
In thy truth quicken me.

VI.

- 41 Let thy sweet mercies also come
And visit me, O Lord ;
Ev'n thy benign and saving grace,
According to thy word.
- 42 So shall I have wherewith I may
Give him an answer just,
Who spitefully reproacheth me ;
For in thy word I trust.
- 43 The word of truth quite from my mouth
O take not thou away ;
For on thy righteous judgments still
My waiting hope doth stay.
- 44 So shall I keep for evermore
Thy law most faithfully ;
- 45 And, sith that I thy precepts keep,
I'll walk at liberty.
- 46 I'll speak thy word to kings ; with shame
I shall not cover'd be ;
- 47 And thy commandments, which I've loved,
Shall give delight to me.
- 48 To thy commandments which I loved
My hands lift up I will ;
And I will also meditate
Upon thy statutes still.

VII.

- 49 Remember, Lord, the word which thou
Didst to thy servant speak,
Which for a ground of my sure hope
Thou causedst me to seek.
- 50 In days of my distress is this
The comfort of my heart,
That thy good word can still to me
New energy impart.
- 51 Though many proud and scornful men
Did greatly me deride ;
Yet from thy just and holy law
I have not turn'd aside.
- 52 Thy righteous judgments, O my God,
When I do call to mind,
The works thou didst in days of old,
Then I sweet comfort find.
- 53 My heart within me burns because
Ill men thy law forsake.
- 54 I in my house of pilgrimage
Thy laws my songs do make.
- 55 Thy name by night, Lord, I did mind,
And I have kept thy law.
- 56 And this I had because thy word
I kept and stood in awe.

VIII.

- 57 Thou my sure portion art alone
 Which I did choose, O Lord :
I have resolved and said that I
 Would keep thy holy word.
- 58 With my whole heart I did entreat
 Thy face and favour free :
According to thy gracious word
 Be merciful to me.
- 59 I thought upon my former ways,
 And did my life well try ;
And to thy testimonies pure
 My feet then turn did I.
- 60 I did not stay nor linger long,
 As those that slothful be ;
But I made haste to learn and keep
 The precepts thou gav'st me.
- 61 Bands of ill men me robb'd, yet I
 Thy precepts did not slight.
- 62 I'll rise at midnight thee to praise,
 Ev'n for thy judgments right.
- 63 I am companion to all those
 Who fear thee and obey.
- 64 O Lord, thy mercy fills the earth :
 Teach me thy laws, I pray.

IX.

- 65 Well hast thou with thy servant dealt,
As thou didst promise give.
- 66 Good judgment me, and knowledge teach,
For I thy word believe.
- 67 Ere I afflicted was I stray'd,
But now I keep thy word.
- 68 Both good thou art, and doest good ;
Teach me thy statutes, Lord.
- 69 The men that are puff'd up with pride
Against me forged a lie ;
Nevertheless with all my heart
Thy precepts keep will I.
- 70 Their hearts, through worldly care and wealth,
As fat as grease they be :
Thy holy law unceasingly
Shall yield delight to me.
- 71 The troubles thou didst on me send
Were very good for me ;
That in thy righteous statutes I
Might well instructed be.
- 72 Good in my sight must ever be
The word thy mouth hath told,
Than many thousands better far
Of silver and of gold.

X.

- 73 Thou mad'st and fashion'dst me : thy laws
 To know give wisdom, Lord.
- 74 So who thee fear shall joy to see
 Me trusting in thy word.
- 75 That very right thy judgments are
 I know, and do confess ;
And that thou hast afflicted me
 In truth and faithfulness.
- 76 O let thy kindness merciful,
 I pray thee, comfort me,
As to thy servant faithfully
 Was promised, Lord, by thee.
- 77 And let thy tender mercies come
 To me, that I may live ;
Because thy holy laws to me
 Sweet delectation give.
- 78 Lord, let the proud be put to shame,
 For they, without a cause,
With me perversely dealt ; but I
 Will muse upon thy laws.
- 79 Let such as fear thee and have known
 Thy statutes turn to me.
- 80 In thy laws let my heart be sound,
 That shamed I never be.

XI.

- 81 My soul for thy salvation faints ;
Yet I thy word believe.
- 82 Mine eyes fail for thy word : I say,
' When wilt thou comfort give ? '
- 83 For like a wine-skin I 'm become,
That in the smoke is set :
I 'm black and parch'd with grief ; yet I
Thy statutes not forget.
- 84 How many are thy servants' days ?
When wilt thou execute
Just judgment on these wicked men
That do me persecute ?
- 85 Their pits for me the proud have digg'd,
Which are against thy laws.
- 86 Thy words all faithful are : help me,
Pursued without a cause.
- 87 They so consumed me, that on earth
My life they scarce did leave :
Thy precepts yet forsook I not,
But close to them did cleave.
- 88 After thy lovingkindness, Lord,
Me quicken and preserve :
The testimony of thy mouth
So shall I still observe.

XII.

- 89 Thy word for ever is, O Lord,
In heaven settled fast :
90 And unto generations all
Thy faithfulness doth last :

The earth thou hast establish'd firm,
And it abides by thee.
91 This day they stand as thou ordain'dst ;
For all thy servants be.

92 Unless in thy most perfect law
My soul delights had found,
I should have perished quite whenas
My troubles did abound.

93 Thy precepts I will ne'er forget,
They quickening to me brought.
94 Lord, I am thine ; O save thou me ;
Thy precepts I have sought.

95 For me the wicked have laid wait,
Me seeking to destroy :
But I thy testimonies true
Consider will with joy.

96 An end of all perfection I
Have surely seen, O God ;
But thy commandment still I find
To be exceeding broad.

XIII.

- 97 O how I love thy law ! it is
My study all the day ;
98 It makes me wiser than my foes ;
For it doth with me stay.
- 99 Than all my teachers now I have
More understanding far ;
Because my meditation aye
Thy testimonies are.
- 100 In understanding surely I
The men of old excel ;
Because thy precepts I have known,
And them have follow'd well.
- 101 My feet from each ill way I stay'd,
That I may keep thy word.
102 I from thy judgments have not swerved,
For thou hast taught me, Lord.
- 103 How sweet unto my taste, O Lord,
Thy words of wisdom are ;
Than sweetest honey to my mouth
I find them sweeter far.
- 104 I understanding get me through
Thy precepts, which are pure ;
Therefore each false and foolish way
I hate and still abjure.
-

XIV.

- 105 Thy word is to my feet a lamp,
And to my path a light.
- 106 The vow I made I will perform,
To keep thy judgments right.
- 107 I am cast down, well-nigh o'erwhelm'd
With sore affliction, Lord :
In mercy raise and quicken me,
According to thy word.
- 108 The freewill-off'rings of my mouth
Accept, I thee beseech :
And unto me thy servant, Lord,
Thy judgments clearly teach.
- 109 Though still my soul be in my hand,
Thy laws I'll not forget.
- 110 I err'd not from them, though for me
The wicked snares did set.
- 111 I of thy testimonies have
Above all things made choice,
To be my heritage for aye ;
For they my heart rejoice.
- 112 Most carefully I have inclined
My heart still to attend ;
That I thy statutes may perform
Alway unto the end.

XV.

- 113 I hate the thoughts of vanity,
But love thy law do I.
- 114 My shield and hiding-place thou art :
I on thy word rely.
- 115 All ye that evil-doers are,
From me depart away ;
For the commandments of my God
I purpose to obey.
- 116 According to thy faithful word
Uphold and stablish me,
That I may live, and of my hope
Ashamed may never be.
- 117 Hold thou me up, so shall I be
In peace and safety still ;
And to thy statutes have respect
Unceasingly I will.
- 118 Vain is the hope of those that from
Thy statutes wont to stray.
- 119 I love thy law, because bad men
Like dross thou putt'st away.
- 120 For fear of thee my very flesh
Doth tremble, all dismay'd ;
And of thy righteous judgments, Lord,
My soul is much afraid.

XVI.

- 121 To all men I have judgment done,
Performing justice right ;
Then let me not be left unto
My fierce oppressors' might.
- 122 For good unto thy servant, Lord,
Thy servant's surety be :
From the oppression of the proud
Do thou deliver me.
- 123 Mine eyes do fail with looking long
For thy salvation great ;
While on thy word of righteousness
I constantly do wait.
- 124 In mercy with thy servant deal,
Thy laws me teach and show.
- 125 I am thy servant, wisdom give,
That I thy laws may know.
- 126 'Tis time to work, Lord ; for they have
Made void thy law divine.
- 127 Therefore thy precepts more I love
Than gold, yea, gold most fine.
- 128 All thy commandments right to be
I do esteem therefore ;
And every false and wicked way
I perfectly abhor.

XVII.

- 129 Thy statutes, Lord, are wonderful,
My soul to keep them tries.
- 130 The entrance of thy words gives light,
And makes the simple wise.
- 131 My thirsty mouth I open'd wide,
And panted earnestly,
While after thy commandments pure
I long'd exceedingly.
- 132 In mercy, Lord, do thou on me
Look down from heaven above ;
As thou art wont to do to those
Thy name that truly love.
- 133 O let my footsteps in thy word
Aright yet order'd be ;
Let no iniquity obtain
Dominion over me.
- 134 From man's oppression save thou me ;
So keep thy laws I will.
- 135 Thy face make on thy servant shine ;
Teach me thy statutes still.
- 136 Rivers of waters from mine eyes
Did run down, when I saw
How wicked men go on in sin
And do not keep thy law.

XVIII.

- 137 O Lord, thou very righteous art ;
Thy judgments are upright.
- 138 Thy testimonies thou command'st
Most faithful are and right.
- 139 My zeal hath even me consumed,
For they that do me hate
Thy holy words forgotten have,
On thy law do not wait.
- 140 Thy word's most pure, therefore on it
Thy servant's love is set.
- 141 Although despised I am, thy laws
I never will forget.
- 142 Thy righteousness is righteousness
Which ever doth endure ;
Thy holy law, Lord, also is
The very truth most pure.
- 143 Trouble and anguish have me found,
And taken hold on me :
Yet in my trouble my delight
Thy just commandments be.
- 144 Thy testimonies' righteousness
Endures eternally :
Give understanding, Lord, to me,
And I shall live with thee.


XIX.

- 145 With my whole heart I cried ; Lord, hear ;
I will thy word obey ;
- 146 I cried to thee ; save me, and I
Will keep thy laws alway.
- 147 Before the dawning of the morn
I unto thee did cry :
For all my expectation did
Upon thy word rely.
- 148 My wakeful eyes from rest refrain'd
In watches of the night,
That in thy word with careful mind
Then meditate I might.
- 149 After thy lovingkindness, hear
My voice that calls on thee :
According to thy judgment, Lord,
Revive and quicken me.
- 150 Injurious men to me draw nigh ;
They from thy law are far :
- 151 But thou art near, Lord ; truth most firm
All thy commandments are.
- 152 As for thy testimonies all,
This have I known of old,
That thou hast surely founded them
And ever wilt uphold.

XX.

- 153 Consider mine affliction, me
In safety do thou set :
Deliver me, O Lord, for I
Thy law do not forget.
- 154 After thy word revive thou me ;
Save me, and plead my cause.
- 155 Salvation is from sinners far ;
For they seek not thy laws.
- 156 O Lord, both great and manifold
Thy tender mercies be ;
According to thy judgments just
Revive and quicken me.
- 157 My persecutors many are,
And foes that do combine ;
Yet from thy testimonies pure
My heart doth not decline.
- 158 I saw transgressors and was grieved ;
For they kept not thy word.
- 159 See how I love thy law ! As thou
Art kind, me quicken, Lord.
- 160 From the beginning all thy word
Hath been most true and sure :
Thy righteous judgments every one
For evermore endure.

XXI.

- 161 Princes have persecuted me,
Although no cause they saw :
But still of thy most holy word
My heart doth stand in awe.
- 162 I at thy word rejoice, as one
Of spoil that finds great store.
- 163 Thy law I love ; but lying all
I hate and do abhor.
- 164 Seven times a day it is my care
To give due praise to thee :
Because of all thy judgments, Lord,
Which righteous ever be.
- 165 Great peace have they who love thy law
Offence they shall have none.
- 166 I hoped for thy salvation, Lord,
And thy commands have done.
- 167 My soul thy testimonies pure
Observed most carefully ;
On them my heart is set, and them
I love exceedingly.
- 168 Thy testimonies and thy laws
With care observed have I ;
For all my works and ways each one
Before thee open lie.
- 

XXII.

- 169 O let my earnest prayer and cry
Come near before thee, Lord ;
Give understanding unto me,
According to thy word.
- 170 Let my request before thee come :
After thy word me free.
- 171 My lips shall utter praise, when thou
Hast taught thy laws to me.
- 172 My tongue of thy most blessed word
Shall speak, and it confess ;
Because all thy commandments are
Most perfect righteousness.
- 173 Let thy strong hand make help to me :
Thy precepts are my choice.
- 174 I long'd for thy salvation, Lord,
And in thy law rejoice.
- 175 O let my soul live, and it shall
Give praises unto thee ;
And let thy gracious judgments still
Be helpful unto me.
- 176 I like a lost sheep went astray ;
Thy servant seek and find :
For thy commands I suffer'd not
To slip out of my mind.

CXX.

- 1 IN my distress to God I cried,
And he gave ear to me.
2 From lying lips and guileful tongue,
O Lord, my soul set free.
3 What shall be giv'n thee ? or what shall
Be done to thee, false tongue ?
4 Ev'n burning coals of juniper;
Sharp arrows of the strong.
5 Woe's me that I in Mesech am
A sojourner so long ;
That I in tabernacles dwell
To Kedar that belong.
6 My soul with him that hateth peace
Hath long a dweller been.
7 I am for peace ; but when I speak,
For battle they are keen.

CXXI.

- 1 I to the hills will lift mine eyes,
From whence doth come mine aid.
2 My safety cometh from the Lord,
Who heaven and earth hath made.

-
- 3 Thy foot he'll not let slide, nor will
He slumber that thee keeps.
4 Behold, he that keeps Israël,
He slumbers not nor sleeps.
5 The Lord thee keeps, the Lord thy shade
On thy right hand doth stay :
6 The moon by night thee shall not smite,
Nor yet the sun by day.
7 The Lord shall keep thy soul ; he shall
Preserve thee from all ill.
8 Henceforth thy going out and in
God keep for ever will.

CXXII.

- 1 I JOY'D when 'To the house of God,
Go up,' they said to me.
2 Jerusalem, within thy gates
Our feet shall standing be.
3 Jerusalem, thou city fair,
Rebuilt firm to stand ;
4 Unto that place the tribes go up,
For so did God command ;
Thither the Lord's own tribes ascend,
To his name thanks to pay.
5 For thrones of judgment, ev'n the thrones
Of David's house, there stay.

- 6 Pray that Jerusalem may have
 Peace and felicity ;
Let them that love thee and thy peace
 Have still prosperity.
- 7 Therefore I wish that peace may still
 Within thy walls remain,
And ever may thy palaces
 Prosperity retain.
- 8 Now for my friends' and brethren's sakes,
 'Peace be in thee,' I'll say.
- 9 And for the house of God the Lord,
 I'll seek thy good alway.

CXXIII.

- 1 O THOU that dwellest in the heavens,
 I lift mine eyes to thee.
- 2 Behold, as servants' eyes do look
 Their masters' hand to see,

As handmaid's eyes her mistress' hand,
 So do our eyes attend
Upon the Lord our God, until
 To us he mercy send.
- 3 O Lord, be gracious unto us,
 Unto us gracious be :
Because our soul is much condemn'd,
 And much cast down are we.

- 4 Our soul is greatly scorn'd by those
 That at their ease abide,
 And with the insolent contempt
 Of those that swell in pride.

CXXIV.

- 1 Now Israël
 May say, and that truly,
 If that the Lord
 Had not our cause maintain'd,
2 If that the Lord
 Had not our right sustain'd,
 When cruel men
 Against us furiously
 Rose up in wrath
 To make of us their prey ;
- 3 Then certainly
 They had devour'd us all,
 And swallowed quick,
 For aught that we could deem :
 Such was their rage,
 As we might well esteem ;
- 4 And as fierce floods
 Before them all things drown,
 So had they brought
 Our soul to death quite down.

- 5 The raging streams
 With their proud swelling waves
 Had then our soul
 O'erwhelm'd in the great deep.
- 6 But bless'd be God
 Who doth us safely keep,
 And hath not given
 Us for a living prey
 Unto their teeth
 And bloody cruelty.
- 7 Ev'n as a bird
 Out of the fowler's snare
 Escapes away,
 So is our soul set free :
 Broke are their nets,
 And thus escaped are we.
- 8 Therefore our help
 Is in the Lord's great name,
 Who heaven and earth
 By his great power did frame.

C X X V.

- 1 THEY in the Lord that firmly trust
 Shall be like Zion hill,
 Which at no time can be removed,
 But standeth ever still.

-
- 2 As round about Jerusalem
The mountains stand alway,
The Lord his folk shall compass so,
From henceforth and for aye.
- 3 For not for ever shall bad men
Rule in God's holy land ;
Lest righteous men to evil deeds
Put forth a desperate hand.
- 4 Do thou to all those that be good
Thy goodness, Lord, impart ;
And do thou good to those that are
Upright within their heart.
- 5 But as for such as turn aside
After their crooked way,
God shall lead forth with wicked men :
On Israel peace shall stay.

CXXVI.

- 1 WHEN Zion's bondage God turn'd back,
As men that dream'd were we.
- 2 Then fill'd with laughter was our mouth,
Our tongue with melody :
- They 'mong the heathen said, 'The Lord
Great things for them hath wrought.'
- 3 The Lord hath wrought great things for us,
Whence joy to us is brought.

-
- 4 As streams of water in the south
 Our bondage, Lord, recall.
- 5 Who sow in tears a reaping time
 Of joy inherit shall.
- 6 That man who, bearing precious seed,
 In going forth doth mourn,
 He doubtless, bringing back his sheaves,
 Rejoicing shall return.

C X X V I I.

- 1 EXCEPT the Lord do build the house,
 The builders lose their pain ;
 Except the Lord the city keep,
 The watchmen watch in vain.
- 2 'Tis vain for you to rise betimes,
 Or late from rest to keep,
 To feed on sorrows' bread ; he gives
 To his loved ones in sleep.
- 3 Lo, children are God's heritage,
 The womb's fruit his reward.
- 4 As arrows in a strong man's hand
 Are sons of youth a guard.
- 5 O happy is the man that hath
 His quiver full of sons ;
 They stand before the judgment seat,
 And he no rival shuns.

CXXVIII.

- 1 BLEST is each one that fears the Lord,
And walketh in his ways ;
2 For of thy labour thou shalt eat,
And happy be always.

- 3 Thy wife shall as a fruitful vine
Within thy house be found ;
Thy children like to olive plants
About thy table round.

- 4 Behold, the man that fears the Lord,
Thus blessèd shall he be.
5 Now may the Lord from Zion give
His blessing unto thee.

- See thou good of Jerusalem
Whilst thou on earth dost dwell.
6 Mayst thou thy children's children see,
And peace in Israël.

CXXIX.

- 1 Now Israël
May say and that truly,
Full many a time
Have they afflicted me ;
2 Full many a time
From my youth have they me

Afflicted sore,
And with despite assail'd :
Yet have they not
Against me quite prevail'd.

- 3 Upon my back
Have plough'd the ploughers strong ;
Yea, on my back
Their furrows they made long.
4 But, bless'd be God,
Who righteous is alway,
And suffers not
Ill men his folk to slay :
He cut the cords
Of that ungodly throng.

- 5 Turn'd back be they
That hate our Zion's name,
Turn'd back be they
And put to grievous shame ;
6 Be they as grass
That on the house-top grows,
And fades away
Before ripe fruit it shows ;
7 And never fills
The hand of him that mows ;

Nor bosom fills
Of him that sheaves doth bind :

- 8 Nor voice is heard
Of them that reapers greet
As they go by
With pious word and sweet,

'God bless you all,
And send you tranquil mind,
In God's good name
Take this our greeting kind.'

CXXX.

- 1 LORD, from the depths to thee I cried.
- 2 My voice, Lord, do thou hear :
Unto my supplication's voice
Give an attentive ear.
- 3 Lord, who shall stand if thou, O Lord,
Shouldst mark iniquity ?
- 4 But yet with thee forgiveness is
That fear'd thou mayest be.
- 5 I wait for God, my soul doth wait,
My hope is in his word.
- 6 More than they that for morning watch,
My soul waits for the Lord :

I say, more than they that do watch
The morning light to see.
- 7 Let Israel still hope in the Lord,
For with him mercies be.

A God of boundless clemency
And saving grace is he.
- 8 Israel from his iniquities
He'll save, and set him free.

CXXXI.

- 1 MY heart not haughty is, O Lord,
Mine eyes not lofty be ;
Nor do I deal in matters great,
Or things too high for me.
- 2 Surely with spirit meek and mild
I have myself demean'd,
As child of mother wean'd ; my soul
Is like a child that 's wean'd.
- 3 Upon the Lord let all the hope
Of Israel still rely,
From henceforth and for evermore,
Upon the Lord most high.

CXXXII.

- 1 DAVID and all his trouble great,
Lord, do thou think upon :
- 2 How unto God he sware, and vow'd
To Jacob's Mighty One ;
- 3 ' I will not come into my house,
To bed will never go ;
- 4 Ne'er shall mine eyes take any sleep,
Nor eyelids slumber know,

-
- 5 'Till for the Lord a place I find
Where he may set his throne ;
A place of habitation find
For Jacob's Mighty One.'
- 6 Lo, at Ephratah's fruitful grove
We heard a joyous sound ;
And in the shady forest fields
It also we have found.
- 7 We'll go into his dwelling place,
And at his footstool bow.
- 8 Arise, O Lord, into thy rest,
Thine ark of strength and thou.
- 9 O let thy priests, Lord, be attired
With truth and righteousness ;
And let all those that are thy saints
Shout loud for joyfulness.
- 10 For thine own servant David's sake
Do not deny thy grace ;
Nor of thine own anointed one
Turn thou away the face.
- 11 The Lord in truth to David sware,
His word will not disown :
'I of thy body's fruit will make
To sit upon thy throne.
- 12 'My cov'nant if thy sons will keep,
And laws to them made known,
Their children then shall also sit
For ever on thy throne.'

- 13 For God of Zion hath made choice,
There he delights to dwell.
- 14 'This is my rest, here still I'll stay ;
For I do like it well.
- 15 'Her food I'll greatly bless ; her poor
With bread will satisfy.
- 16 Her priests I'll clothe with health ; her saints
Shall raise a joyful cry.
- 17 'And there will I make David's horn
To grow and rise on high,
For him that mine anointed is
A lamp ordain'd have I.
- 18 'I will subdue and put to shame
All that his foes have been ;
But on his own head he shall wear
A crown of glorious sheen.'

CXXXIII.

- 1 BEHOLD, how good a thing it is,
And how becoming well,
Together such as brethren are
In unity to dwell.
- 2 Like precious ointment on the head,
That down the beard did flow,
Ev'n Aaron's beard, and to the skirts
Did of his garments go.

- 3 As Hermon's dew, the dew that doth
On Zion's hills descend :
For there the blessing God commands,
Life that shall never end.

CXXXIV.

- 1 BEHOLD, bless ye the Lord our God,
All ye his servants' band ;
You that within his temple do
Before him nightly stand.
- 2 Your hands within God's holy place
Lift up, and praise his name.
- 3 From Zion hill the Lord thee bless,
That heaven and earth did frame.

CXXXV.


- 1 PRAISE ye the Lord : ye servants of
The Lord, his praise forth tell :
- 2 Who stand in God's house, and within
The courts of our God dwell.
- 3 Praise ye the Lord, for he is good ;
Unto him praises sing :
Sing praises to his name, because
It is a pleasant thing.

-
- 4 For Jacob's house God for himself
Chose for his folk to take ;
And his peculiar treasure he
Did Israel's children make.
- 5 Because I know assuredly
The Lord is very great,
And that our Lord above all gods
Exalted is in state.
- 6 What thing soever pleased the Lord,
That in the heaven did he,
And in the earth, the seas, and all
The places deep that be.
- 7 He from the ends of earth doth make
The vapours to ascend ;
With rain he lightning makes, and wind
Doth from his treasures send.
- 8 Egypt's first-born from man to beast
Who smote. Strange tokens he
- 9 On Pharaoh and his servants sent,
Egypt, in midst of thee.
- 10 He smote great nations, slew great kings ;
- 11 Sihon of Heshbon king,
And Og of Bashan ; and to nought
Did Canaan's kingdoms bring.
- 12 And for a wealthy heritage
He gave their pleasant land,
For Israel his own chosen folk
An heritage to stand.

-
- 13 Thy name, O Lord, shall still endure,
And thy memorial
With honour shall continued be
To generations all.
- 14 For why ? The righteous God will judge
His people righteously ;
Concerning those that do him serve,
Himself repent will he.
- 15 The idols of the nations are
Of silver and of gold,
And by the hands of men is made
Their fashion and their mould.
- 16 Mouths have they, but they do not speak ;
Eyes, but they do not see ;
- 17 Ears have they, but they do not hear ;
No breath may in them be.
- 18 Like them their makers are, and all
That in them trust do place.
- 19 O Israel's house, bless God ; bless God,
O ye of Aaron's race.
- 20 O bless the Lord, of Levi's house
Who in his temple wait ;
All ye that fear the Lord, now bless
His holy name and great.
- 21 And blessed be the Lord our God
From Zion's holy hill,
Who dwelleth at Jerusalem.
The Lord O praise ye still.

CXXXVI.

- 1 GIVE thanks to God, for good is he ;
 For mercy hath he ever.
- 2 Thanks to the God of gods give ye ;
 For his grace faileth never.
- 3 Thanks give the Lord of lords unto ;
 For mercy hath he ever :
- 4 Who only wonders great can do ;
 For his grace faileth never :
- 5 Who by his wisdom high heavens made ;
 For mercy hath he ever :
- 6 Who earth above the waters spread ;
 For his grace faileth never.
- 7 To him that made the great lights shine ;
 For mercy hath he ever :
- 8 The sun to rule till day decline ;
 For his grace faileth never :
- 9 The moon and stars to rule by night ;
 For mercy hath he ever.
- 10 Who Egypt's first-born sons did smite ;
 For his grace faileth never :
- 11 And Israel brought from Egypt land ;
 For mercy hath he ever :
- 12 With outstretch'd arm, and with strong hand ;
 For his grace faileth never :


- 13 Who parted by his might the sea ;
For mercy hath he ever ;
14 And through its midst led Israel free ;
For his grace faileth never :
- 15 But Pharaoh and his host did drown ;
For mercy hath he ever.
16 Who through the desert led his own ;
For his grace faileth never.
- 17 To him great kings who overthrew ;
For mercy hath he ever ;
18 Yea, famous kings in battle slew ;
For his grace faileth never :
- 19 Even Sihon, king of Amorites ;
For mercy hath he ever :
20 And Og, the king of Bashanites ;
For his grace faileth never.
- 21 He gave for heritage their land ;
For mercy hath he ever :
22 To Israel, by his mighty hand ;
For his grace faileth never.
- 23 In our low state who on us thought ;
For mercy hath he ever :
24 And from our foes our freedom sought ;
For his grace faileth never.
- 25 Who doth all flesh with food supply ;
For mercy hath he ever.
26 Give thanks to God of heaven high ;
For his grace faileth never.
- 

CXXXVII.

- 1 By Babel's streams we sat and wept,
 When Zion we thought on ;
- 2 In midst thereof we hang'd our harps
 The willow trees upon.
- 3 For there a song demanded they,
 Who did us captive bring :
 Our spoilers called for mirth, and said,
 ' A song of Zion sing.'
- 4 O how the Lord's song shall we sing
 Within a foreign land ?
- 5 If I forget Jerusalem,
 May skill leave my right hand.
- 6 Let my tongue to my palate cleave,
 If I do thee forget,
 Jerusalem, and thee above
 My chief joy do not set.
- 7 Remember Edom's children, Lord,
 Who in the fatal day,
 'Down even to the very ground
 Rase, rase it quite,' did say.
- 8 O daughter thou of Babylon,
 Thou fell destroying one ;
 Blest shall he be that thee rewards
 As thou to us hast done.

- 9 Yea, happy shall he be who doth
 Avenge our captive groans,
 Slay thine inhabitants, and dash
 Thy babes against the stones.

CXXXVIII.

- 1 THEE will I praise with all my heart,
 Before the gods I will
2 Sing praise to thee, and worship pay
 Toward thy holy hill.
- I'll praise thy name, ev'n for thy truth,
 And greatness of thy love ;
 For thou thy word hast magnified
 All thy great name above.
- 3 Thou didst me answer in the day
 When I to thee did cry ;
 And thou my fainting soul with strength
 Didst graciously supply.
- 4 All kings upon the earth that are
 Shall give thee praise, O Lord,
 Whenas they from thy mouth shall hear
 Thy true and faithful word.
- 5 Yea, of the righteous ways of God
 With gladness they shall sing ;
 For great 's the glory of the Lord :
 Loud let his praises ring.
- 

- 6 Though God be high, yet he respects
All those that lowly be ;
Whereas the proud and lofty ones
Afar off knoweth he.
- 7 Though I in midst of trouble walk,
Thou 'lt keep me from the grave :
'Gainst my foes' wrath thou 'lt stretch thine hand,
Thy right hand shall me save.
- 8 Surely that which concerneth me
The Lord will perfect make ;
Lord, still thy mercy lasts ; do not
Thine own hands' work forsake.

CXXXIX.

- 1 O LORD, thou hast me search'd and known.
2 Thou know'st my sitting down,
And rising up : yea, all my thoughts
Afar to thee are known.
- 3 My going and my resting still
Thou compassed always ;
Thou also most entirely art
Acquaint with all my ways.
- 4 For in my tongue before I speak
Not any word can be,
But altogether, lo, O Lord,
It is well known to thee.

- 5 Behind, before, thou hast beset
And laid on me thine hand.
- 6 Such knowledge is too strange for me,
Too high to understand.
- 7 Where shall I from thy spirit go ?
Or from thy presence fly ?
- 8 Ascend I heaven, lo, thou art there ;
There, if in hell I lie.
- 9 Take I the morning wings, and dwell
In utmost parts of sea :
- 10 Ev'n there, Lord, shall thy hand me lead,
Thy right hand hold shall me.
- 11 If I do say that darkness shall
Me cover from thy sight,
Then surely shall the very night
About me be as light.
- 12 Yea, darkness hideth not from thee,
But night doth shine as day ;
To thee the darkness and the light
Are both alike alway.
- 13 For thou hast form'd my heart and reins :
Within my mother's womb
Thou hast me fashion'd, ev'n as one
That weaves on skilful loom.
- 14 Sith I am made so wondrously,
I will thy praises tell :
Thy works are marvellous ; and that
My soul doth know right well.

- 15 My substance from thee was not hid ;
Thou didst my members see
When I in secret place was made
And fashion'd wondrously.
- 16 Within the volume of thy book
Thou all my days didst write,
Determining them every one
Ere yet they came to light.
- 17 How wondrous are thy thoughts, O God,
How very deep to me !
In their innumerable sum
How passing great they be !
- 18 More numerous than sand are they
If I to count should try.
What time soever I awake,
With thee, Lord, still am I.
- 19 Thou, Lord, wilt sure the wicked slay ;
Ye bloody men, away !
- 20 Thy foes against thee loudly speak,
And rise in vain array.
- 21 Do not I hate all those, O Lord,
That hatred bear to thee ?
With those that up against thee rise,
Can I but wearied be ?
- 22 With perfect hatred I them hate,
Them for my foes I hold.
- 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart :
Try me, my thoughts unfold :

- 24 And see if any wicked way
 There be at all in me ;
And in thine everlasting way
 To me a leader be.

C X L.

- 1 LORD, from the ill and froward man
 Give me deliverance ;
And do thou safe preserve me from
 The man of violence.
- 2 Who mischief in their spiteful heart
 Imagine all their life ;
And ceaselessly they are intent
 On stirring up of strife.
- 3 Like serpents venomous their tongues
 They sharpen'd weapons make ;
And underneath their lips there lies
 The poison of a snake.
- 4 From hands of men of violence,
 O Lord, deliver me ;
Who have determined to destroy
 My goings utterly.
- 5 The proud for me a snare have hid,
 And cords : yea, they a net
Have by the wayside for me spread ;
 They gins for me have set.


- 6 I said unto the Lord, Thou art
My God : unto the cry
Of all my supplications, Lord,
Do thou thine ear apply.
- 7 O God the Lord, thou art my strength,
To me dost safety bring ;
In day of battle fierce my head
Like helmet covering.
- 8 Unto the wicked man, O Lord,
His wishes do not grant ;
Nor further thou his ill device,
Lest they themselves should vaunt.
- 9 Then though they proudly lift the head
That round encompass me ;
Ev'n by the mischief of their lips
Let thou them cover'd be.
- 10 Let burning coals upon them fall,
Them throw in fiery flame ;
And in deep pits, that they no more
May rise out of the same.
- 11 Let not a man of evil tongue
On earth find residence :
Mischief to overthrow shall hunt
The man of violence.
- 12 I know God will th' afflicted's cause
Maintain, and poor man's right.
- 13 Surely the just shall praise thy name ;
Th' upright dwell in thy sight.

CXLI.

- 1 O LORD, I unto thee do cry,
Do thou make haste to me ;
Give ear unto my suppliant voice,
When I cry unto thee.
- 2 As incense let my prayer be
Accepted in thine eyes ;
And the uplifting of my hands
As evening sacrifice.
- 3 Set, Lord, a watch before my mouth,
Keep of my lips the door.
- 4 My heart incline thou not unto
The ills I should abhor,
- To practise wicked works with men
That work iniquity :
Let me not eat of dainties such
As pleasing to them be.
- 5 Let him that righteous is me smite,
It shall a kindness be ;
Let him reprove, I shall it count
A precious oil to me.
- An oil my head will not refuse,
For yet the time shall be
That I with prayer shall meet the plots
They lay to injure me.


- 6 Whenas their judges down shall be
 Thrown on the stony ground,
 Then shall they hear my words ; for they
 Shall pleasant then be found.
- 7 About the grave's devouring mouth
 Our bones are scatter'd round,
 As wood which men do cut and cleave
 Lies scatter'd on the ground.
- 8 But unto thee, O God the Lord,
 Mine eyes uplifted be ;
 My soul do not leave destitute ;
 My trust is set on thee.
- 9 Lord, keep me safely from the snares
 Which they prepare for me ;
 And from the subtle gins of them
 That wicked workers be.
- 10 Let workers of iniquity
 Into their own nets fall,
 Whilst I do by thine help escape
 The danger of them all.

CXLII.

- 1 I CRIED unto my Lord,
 I humbly made request ;
- 2 My plaint to him outpour'd,
 My trouble I express'd,
- 

- When I was full of care.
3 Then well thou knew'st my way,
That privily a snare
For me my foes did lay.
- 4 I look on my right hand,
No friend mine eyes can see :
All refuge fails, I stand
With none to care for me.
- 5 To thee I stretch my hand,
To thee for refuge flee ;
Thou in the living's land
My portion sure must be.
- 6 Because I am brought low
Attend unto my cry ;
Save me from cruel foe,
That stronger is than I.
- 7 My soul from prison free,
That I thy name may praise :
So shall the righteous see
The goodness of thy ways.

CXLIII.

- 1 OH, hear my prayer, Lord,
And unto my desire
To bow thine ear accord,
I humbly thee require :
- 

And in thy faithfulness
Unto me answer make,
And in thy righteousness
Upon me pity take.

- 2 In judgment enter not
With me, thy servant poor ;
For why, this well I wot,
No sinner can endure

To stand before thy sight,
Or be in judgment tried ;
With thee no living wight
Can e'er be justified.

- 3 Behold, the cruel foe
Me persecutes with spite,
My soul to overthrow :
Yea, he my life down quite

Unto the ground hath smote,
And made me dwell full low
In darkness, as forgot,
Or men dead long ago.

- 4 Therefore my spirit vex'd
O'erwhelm'd is me within ;
My heart right sore perplex'd
And desolate hath been.

- 5 Yet I do call to mind
What ancient days record ;
Thy works of every kind
I think upon, O Lord.

- 6 Lo, I in prayer to thee
Entreating stretch my hands ;
Do thou me help and free
From these my cruel bands.

My thirsting soul desires
And longeth after thee,
As thirsty ground requires
With rain refresh'd to be.

- 7 Lord, let my prayer prevail,
To answer it make speed ;
My spirit's like to fail,
Hide not thy face in need ;

Lest I be like to those
That do in darkness sit,
Or him that downward goes
Into the dreadful pit.

- 8 Because I trust in thee,
O Lord, cause me to hear
Thy lovingkindness free
When morning doth appear ;


Cause me the way to know
Wherein my path should be :
To thee for light I go,
I lift my soul to thee.

- 9 From my fierce enemy
In safety do me guide ;
Because I flee to thee,
Lord, that thou mayst me hide.

- 10 Thou art my God ; instruct
 Me in thy will, I pray :
 Thy spirit good, conduct
 Me in an upright way.
- 11 O Lord, for thy name's sake
 Be pleased to quicken me ;
 And, for thy truth, forth take
 My soul from misery.
- 12 And of thy grace destroy
 Mine enemies, and kill
 All who my soul annoy ;
 For I observe thy will.

CXLIV.


- 1 O BLESSED be the Lord
 Who is my strength and might,
 Who doth instruct my hands to war,
 My fingers teach to fight.
- 2 My goodness, my high tower,
 Deliverer, and shield,
 In whom I trust ; who under me
 My people makes to yield.
- 3 Lord, what is man, that thou
 Of him dost knowledge take ?
 Or son of man, that thou of him
 So great account dost make ?

-
- 4 Man is like breath ; his days
 As shadows pass away.
- 5 Lord, bow thy heavens, come down, touch thou
 The hills, and smoke shall they.
- 6 Dart lightnings, scatter them,
 Thine arrows shoot, them rout.
- 7 Thine hand send from above, me save ;
 From great depths draw me out ;
- Save me from strangers' sons,
8 Whose mouth speaks vanity ;
 And their right hand a right hand is
 That works deceitfully.
- 9 A new song I will sing,
 Lord, on a psaltery ;
 I on a ten-string'd instrument
 Will praises sing to thee.
- 10 'Tis he that victory
 To warring kings doth send ;
 Who his own servant David doth
 From hurtful sword defend.
- 11 Save me from strangers' sons
 Whose mouth speaks vanity ;
 And their right hand a right hand is
 That works deceitfully :
- 12 That our sons be as trees
 In youth uprear'd with care ;
 Our daughters like to pillars shine,
 Carved like a palace fair ;
- 

- 13 Our garners may be fill'd
 With every kind of corn ;
 To flocks that in our meadows fold
 Ten thousand lambs be born ;
- 14 Our herds be full of young ;
 That no in-breaking be,
 Nor going out ; and that our streets
 May from alarms be free.
- 15 Blest are the folk that be
 In such a case as this ;
 Yea, blessèd all those people are
 Whose God JEHOVAH is.

CXLV.

- 1 O LORD, thou art my God and King ;
 Thee will I magnify and praise ;
 I will thee bless, and gladly sing
 Unto thy holy name always.
- 2 Each day I rise I will thee bless,
 And praise thy name time without end.
- 3 Great is the Lord, let all confess ;
 His greatness none can comprehend.
- 4 Race shall thy works praise unto race,
 The mighty acts show done by thee.
- 5 I will speak of the glorious grace
 And honour of thy majesty :

-
- 6 Thy wondrous works I will record.
By men the might shall be extoll'd
Of all thy dreadful acts, O Lord,
And I thy greatness will unfold.
- 7 They utter shall abundantly
The memory of thy goodness great ;
And shall sing praises cheerfully,
Whilst they thy righteousness relate.
- 8 The Lord our God is bountiful,
Compassionate is he also ;
In mercy he is plentiful,
And unto wrath and anger slow.
- 9 Good unto all men is the Lord,
His mercy is o'er all his ways.
- 10 Thy works all praise to thee afford ;
Thy saints, O Lord, thy name shall praise.
- 11 The glory of thy kingdom show
Shall they, and of thy power tell :
- 12 That so men's sons his deeds may know,
His kingdom's grace that doth excel.
- 13 Thy kingdom hath none end at all,
It doth through ages all remain.
- 14 The Lord upholdeth all that fall,
The cast down raiseth up again.
- 15 The eyes of all things, Lord, attend,
And on thee wait that do live here ;
And thou in season due dost send
Sufficient food their heart to cheer.
- 

- 16 Yea, thou thine hand dost open wide,
 And every thing dost satisfy
 That lives and doth on earth abide
 With large and liberal supply.
- 17 The Lord is just in his ways all,
 And holy in his works each one :
- 18 He's near to all that on him call,
 Who call in truth on him alone.
- 19 God will the just desire fulfil
 Of such as truly do him fear ;
 Their cry regard and hear he will,
 And save them when their peril's near.
- 20 The Lord preserves all, more and less,
 That bear to him a loving heart ;
 But workers all of wickedness
 Destroy will he and clean subvert.
- 21 Therefore my mouth and lips I'll frame
 To speak the praises of the Lord :
 To magnify thy holy name
 For ever let all flesh accord.

CXLVI.

- 1 PRAISE God. The Lord praise, O my soul.
- 2 I'll praise God while I live ;
 While I have being, to my God
 In songs I'll praises give.

-
- 3 Trust not in princes, nor man's son,
 In whom there is no stay.
- 4 His breath departs, to earth he turns ;
 That day his thoughts decay.
- 5 O happy is that man and blest,
 Whom Jacob's God doth aid ;
 Whose hope upon the Lord doth rest,
 And on his God is stay'd :
- 6 Who made the earth and heavens above,
 Who made the swelling deep,
 And all that is within the same ;
 Who truth doth ever keep :
- 7 Who righteous judgment executes
 For those oppress'd that be ;
 Who to the hungry giveth food.
 God sets the prisoners free.
- 8 The Lord doth give the blind their sight,
 The bow'd down doth raise :
 The Lord doth dearly love all those
 That walk in upright ways.
- 9 The strangers' shield, the widow's stay,
 The orphan's help is he :
 But yet by him the wicked's way
 Turn'd upside down shall be.
- 10 The Lord shall reign for evermore :
 Thy God, O Zion, he
 Doth reign to generations all.
 Praise to the Lord give ye.

CXLVII.

- 1 PRAISE ye the Lord, for it is good ;
Pleasant it is with grace to sing
Praise to our God in gladsome mood ;
Yea, praise is sure a comely thing.
- 2 Jerusalem we love so well
God from the dust again doth raise ;
And the dispersed of Israël
He gathers as in former days.
- 3 Those that are broken in their heart
And stricken in their cheerless mind
He healeth, and with tender art
Their painful wounds he doth upbind.
- 4 The number of the stars he tells ;
By name he calls them every one.
- 5 Great is the Lord, his might excels ;
His understanding search can none.
- 6 The Lord those that are meek doth raise ;
He casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lord and give him praise ;
Upon the harp his glory sound.
- 8 Who bids his clouds o'er heaven to pass,
And for the thirsty earth below
Prepareth rain, and maketh grass
Upon the mountain-side to grow.

-
- 9 He gives the beast his food, he feeds
 The ravens young that to him cry.
- 10 Nor speed of men, nor strength of steeds
 Can pleasure give to God most high.
- 11 His pleasure he in his great grace
 Doth take in them that do him fear ;
 Their trust who in his mercy place,
 His holy word with meekness hear.
- 12 Jerusalem, praise God most high ;
 O Zion hill, thy Lord confess.
- 13 Thy gates he doth with strength supply ;
 The children in thy bounds doth bless.
- 14 He maketh peace within thy land ;
 With finest wheat he filleth thee.
- 15 On earth he sends forth his command ;
 His word of might runs speedily.
- 16 Hoar frost, like ashes, scattereth he ;
 His snow like whitest wool doth give :
- 17 His hail like morsels forth doth flee ;
 His cold who can endure and live ?
- 18 His mighty word from him doth go,
 The frozen waters melt again ;
 He makes the warm soft wind to blow,
 And flooded streams are flowing then.
- 19 The doctrine of his word most pure
 He doth to Jacob's children show ;
 His statutes and his judgments sure
 He makes the sons of Israel know.

- 20 Such favour hath he nowhere shown
 As to this folk he doth accord :
 Yet they his judgments have not known.
 O praise and magnify the Lord.

CXLVIII.

- 1 THE Lord of heaven confess,
 On high his glory raise.
2 Him let all angels bless,
 Him all his armies praise.
3 Him glorify
 Sun, moon, and stars ;
4 Ye higher spheres
 And cloudy sky.
- 5 From God your beings are,
 Him therefore famous make ;
 You all created were
 When he the word but spake.
6 And from that place,
 Where fix'd you be
 By his decree,
 You cannot pass.
- 7 Praise God from earth below
 Ye dragons and ye deeps :
8 Fire, hail, clouds, wind, and snow,
 Whom in command he keeps.

9 Praise ye his name
Hills great and small,
Trees low and tall,
10 Beasts wild and tame,

All things that creep or fly.
11 Ye kings, ye common throng,
Princes and judges high,
12 Both men and virgins young,
Ev'n young and old,
13 Exalt his name ;
For much his fame
Should be extoll'd.

O let God's name be praised
Above both earth and sky ;
14 For he his saints hath raised,
And set their horn on high ;
Ev'n those that be
Of Israel's race,
Near to his grace.
The Lord praise ye.

CXLIX.

1 PRAISE ye the Lord : unto him sing
A new song, and his praise
In the assembly of his saints
In sweet psalms do ye raise,

- 2 Let Israel in his Maker joy,
 And to him praises sing ;
 Let all that Zion's children are
 Be joyful in their King.
- 3 O let them unto his great name
 Give praises in the dance ;
 Let them with timbrel and with harp
 In songs his praise advance.
- 4 For God takes pleasure in his folk
 His face that truly seek ;
 And he with all his saving grace
 Will beautify the meek.
- 5 And in his glory excellent
 Let all his saints rejoice ;
 Let them to him upon their beds
 Aloud lift up their voice.
- 6 Let their exultant mouth be fill'd
 With high praise of the Lord ;
 And let them have in their right hand
 A sharp two-edged sword :
- 7 To execute the vengeance due
 Upon the heathen all,
 And make a condign punishment
 Upon the people fall :
- 8 And with a captive's chain to bind
 Their kings that them command ;
 Yea and with iron fetters strong,
 The nobles of their land :

- 9 On them the judgment to perform
 Found written in his word :
 This honour is to all his saints.
 O do ye praise the Lord.

CL.

- 1 PRAISE God : his praises in
 His sanctuary raise.
 To his great name within
 The firmament give praise ;
 Where he in might
 Above the clouds
 His glory shrouds
 From mortal sight.
- 2 For all his mighty deeds
 With praise him magnify.
 His greatness search exceeds,
 His glory is most high.
 Therefore his fame
 See that ye raise,
 And fitly praise
 His holy name.
- 3, 4 Praise him with trumpet's voice,
 His praise with harp advance ;
 With psaltery rejoice
 And praise him in the dance :

The timbrel bring,
And, dancing round,
His praises sound
On pleasant string.

- 5 Praise him on cymbals clear,
With joy him glorify ;
Praise all that do him fear,
On cymbals sounding high.
All things that live
And breathe on earth,
To him with mirth
High praises give.

NOTES.

PSALM II.

v. 12. It is generally known that many of the best interpreters reject the reading, "Kiss the Son." No Hebrew scholar will treat their arguments lightly. Still it may be held that they are not conclusive, and that none of the renderings suggested are altogether satisfactory. On the whole, I do not feel myself warranted to disturb, especially in a poetical version, the received text.

In the second member of the verse, "when his wrath is kindled but a little" (E. V.)¹ is scarcely accurate. It should be, "for his wrath is suddenly or easily kindled." "If once his wrath begins to burn" (A. V.) comes nearer to the meaning of the original; and might have been allowed to remain, if it were not so easy to make it correct with a very little change.

PSALM III.

v. 7. A slight liberty, rarely ventured, is here taken in transposing the first clause to v. 8; which is not only more convenient for metrical purposes, but admits of the omission of the reference to the breaking of the enemies' bones and teeth when the psalm is used for public or private praise.

¹ This abbreviation stands in these notes for the English Prose Version, that of our Bibles. P. B. indicates the Version of the English Prayer Book. A. V. denotes the Authorised Scottish Metrical Version.

PSALM IV.

v. 8. The word rendered "only" is, literally, "in solitariness." It is commonly referred to God, as here, "Thou only:" but it might refer to the psalmist, "Thou makest me to dwell apart," i.e. "in safety."

PSALM V.

v. 10. "Destroy them." "Condemn or punish them" is perhaps better.

Another reading of the next clause, given in the margin (E. V.), and by some preferred, is "Let them fall from their counsels;" let them fail in their plans, and let their punishment consist in seeing their evil counsels come to nought. But the present rendering seems better—let them fall by their own devices: a very common thought in the Psalms. E. V. is especially admirable throughout this fine psalm.

PSALM VII.

v. 4. This, evidently a very old psalm, and beyond all reasonable doubt from David's own hand, is, like the other ancient specimens of Hebrew poetry, strong and abrupt in style. Ewald however considers that the text as it stands is too abrupt, and thinks that two half-verses have dropped out before the parenthesis here. He supplies the blank thus:

" And shew enmity to my friend ;
If I have not repaid his evil with good,
And " etc.

As an effort of constructive criticism, this commands our admiration. But it is not certain that the abruptness of the text (where, though the construing is hard, the meaning is perfectly clear) is not more natural in the outpouring of a stormy but faithful heart like that of the poet king.

In the subjoined version the restored lines are printed in italics :

" If I rewarded ill to him
That was at peace with me ;
And to a man that was my friend
Have rendered enmity ;
If rather I have not repaid
With good his evil deed ;
Yea, ev'n the man that without cause
My foeman was, I freed."

v. 7. "For their sakes" (E. V.) is a very doubtful rendering. David's prayer is that Jehovah would—after having long suffered the adversary to rage unpunished, thus seeming to have deserted his place as judge—return, and take his seat once more on high among the assembled people, and judge between him and his enemies.

v. 12. This verse as it stands is awkward in various ways. It must mean "if he (the wicked) turn not," *i.e.* mend not his ways, "he (Jehovah) will whet his sword," etc. Instead of this it seems plain that we should for "if" read "assuredly," and apply the pronouns to the same person throughout the verse. Some apply them to Jehovah in vv. 12, 13, returning, as we must certainly do, to the wicked in vv. 14, 15. But a good sense is yielded by applying all these verses to the baffled enemy. "Doubtless he will return and whet his sword," *i.e.* he will be whetting his sword again, and bending his bow, he has it ready indeed ; he has the instruments of death prepared, he has his arrows ready burning : but lo, all this his travail comes to nothing ; yea, what he has conceived for our ruin deceives and destroys himself." But what about "he makes ready his arrows against the persecutors" ? That cannot refer to the persecutor himself. This indeed is a difficulty, and, if that is a correct rendering, an insuperable objection to this otherwise acceptable elucidation of an obscure passage. But the word translated "against the persecutors" is obscure, and that translation at all events is now generally rejected. Apart from the question of reference as above presented, the best rendering of the doubtful word seems to be "he makes his arrows

burning," that is, he prepares his arrows with burning stuff attached—a custom of ancient warfare. This, as will be seen, equally suits the hostile preparations of the wicked and the avenging action of God.

PSALM VIII.

v. 2. "Thou hast ordained strength" (E. V.) The margin is better; "founded." From the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast founded a strength or stronghold. The merest prattle of children is a sufficient defence of God's glory against the most insolent attacks of his enemies.

v. 5. The change of a word here will, it may be feared, displease and perhaps shock many; but I have no doubt that it is "a little lower than God," and that the reverence of older interpreters who established the translation "angels," however well meant, was mistaken and misplaced.

PSALM IX.

v. 6. As it stands at present in our Bibles this verse is obscure, if not unintelligible. The original indeed is difficult. But, whatever be the most exact rendering of the words, there is no doubt about the meaning: the enemy are to be destroyed with everlasting destruction, their cities overthrown so that their very memory perishes.

v. 12. "When he maketh inquisition for blood;" i.e. in his capacity of avenger of blood, he remembers the humble folk and the evil men at whose hands they have suffered wrong.

v. 16. The third and fourth lines stand thus in the version of the Marquis of Lorne.

v. 17. I am aware of the objections to rendering the Hebrew *Sheol* by "hell." Etymologically the word answers very well, but it has gathered dogmatical and superstitious associations which render it unfit. The modern, or perhaps I should say, mediæval hell is a much more tremendous place than the Hebrew "*Sheol*," which is simply the place of the dead, the abode of shades. "The grave" would really be nearer the

Hebrew idea than "hell." But, all things considered, I have judged it better to retain the old word. Intelligent readers may be trusted to remember that it is David's and not Dante's hell that is intended here.

PSALM X.

v. 2. "The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor" (E. V.) So the Rabbis and Calvin. But the word translated "persecute" means properly to burn, to be hot (comp. note on vii. 12), and most interpreters now take it as an intransitive, and descriptive of the sufferings of the persecuted. "The poor is in anguish from the pride of the wicked."

v. 3. "He blesseth the covetous, *whom* the Lord abhorreth" (E. V.) The word "*whom*" is in italics, indicating that there is none corresponding to it in the original, and that the translators supplied it to make up the sense. But it is much simpler to leave it out, and take, as is quite admissible, "*Yahveh*" as the object and not the subject of the verb. "He blesseth the covetous; he despiseth the Lord." Others invert the first clause also, and, as the verb "*barak*" is occasionally used in an evil sense, read, "the robber curseth and despiseth the Lord."

v. 4. This verse is very abrupt and elliptical. "The wicked in (or through) the pride of his countenance—will not inquire (or avenge, as in ix. 12): No God—all his thoughts." Our prose version puts the fragments together thus: "The wicked in the pride of his countenance will not seek after God; God is not in all his thoughts." It is better and more in the line of the psalmist's thought to take it in this way: "The wicked in the pride of his countenance (says) 'he will not inquire (*i.e.* take vengeance); nay, there is no God at all.' Such are all his thoughts." See ver. 13, and compare xiv. 1.

v. 10. "He croucheth and humbleth himself that the poor may fall by his strong ones" (E. V.) So most interpreters. But there is an uncertainty about the text; and some read, "the oppressed sink down and fall by his strong ones." "His strong ones" may be his *arms and hands*, or, following the

figure of the crouching lion, his *claws*, or, dropping figure, simply his strong men, his *followers*.

v. 13. "Wherefore doth the wicked condemn God? He hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it" (E. V.) Mr. Rous, following this, and taking the latter portion as containing the answer to the question, helps both emphasis and metre by inserting "because:"

"Because that God will it require
He in his heart denies."

But the whole verse is a question: "Wherefore doth the wicked condemn God, saying in his heart, Thou wilt not require it?"

v. 14. "To requite it with thy hand" (E. V.) Literally, "to take it in thy hand." According to some this means for the purpose of marking it down: "Thou hast seen, thou wilt remember." But the more common view yields a good enough sense; "Thou wilt take it in hand;" "Thou hast seen and thou wilt avenge."

PSALM XI.

v. 3. "If the foundations be destroyed what can the righteous do?" (E. V.) "What hath the righteous done?" (A. V.) Whether the metrical version departed from the prose by design for the sake of a by no means perfect rhyme, it is impossible to say; but it happens to be right. It is not "When the foundations or supports are destroyed, what can the righteous do? what remains for him but to fly?" but "What has he done?" and that again not, as Calvin and others, "What has he done to deserve such a fate?" but "what has he ever done?"—"What in such extremity has the righteous been able to do in the way of counsel and help?"

v. 4. "The Lord is in his holy temple" (E. V.)—Not the temple at Jerusalem in this case, but his palace. If the psalm is from David's hand,—and if any of them may be confidently ascribed to him, this may,—it would be an anachronism to speak of a temple that was yet to build; besides, the idea of God's heavenly palace fits better into this grand old song.

It seems right to regard the second and third verses as presenting the taunts of enemies, or, better perhaps, the despairing counsels of friends, to which the remainder of the psalm furnishes a reply. "Ye say, 'Flee to yon hill.' 'Look, the wicked are bending their bow: their arrows are ready.' 'When the foundations are destroyed, what has the righteous done? Will he be able to stand?'" A dark view of life and history, and true in its way—too sadly true. But David will not give in. His answer is simple and sublime: "There is a God in heaven—He sees the sins of men; He loves the righteous—He hates the wicked—He will rain thunderbolts on the wicked; but the righteous shall see his face."

v. 6. The efforts of some great scholars notwithstanding, it seems impossible to retain the rendering "snares" or "nets." There is good authority for the more suitable translation adopted here. In E. V., besides, the parallelism is missed. The verse should run thus:

"He shall rain upon the wicked lightnings, fire, and brimstone:
A horrible (or burning) tempest shall be the portion of their cup."

v. 7. Not "the righteous Lord" (E. V.), "but Yahveh is righteous."

"Righteous is the Lord; righteousness he loves;
The upright shall see his face."

"His countenance doth behold the upright" (E. V.) Yes. But why invert the order of the Hebrew—"The upright doth behold his countenance"? Is not this the highest hope of the just, that at last, after the darkness is over, they shall behold the perfect light? Compare iv. 6, xvii. 15, xxxvi. 9, etc.

PSALM XII.

v. 3. This is not a prophecy, but a prayer, answered in v. 5.

v. 5. "From him that puffeth at him" (E. V.), see x. 5; "defy" (A. V.) Some refer rather to the panting of the oppressed after deliverance.

PSALM XIV.

Same as liii., with slight variations generally, and consider-

able in v. 6 ; vv. 2 and 3 are better done in liii., and are inserted here.

PSALM XVI.

vv. 2-4. This passage is full of difficulties, which cannot be discussed here. I take the obscure phrase, "My goodness extendeth not unto thee" (E. V.), as meaning, "Thou art my highest good." "The saints that are in the earth" (E. V.) are the Israelites in the holy land. The "excellent" (E. V.) are the nobles or leaders of the people. These have gone after other gods ; gods like Moloch, with deadly rites. With these he will have nought to do.

PSALM XVII.

v. 3. By some the word rendered "I am purposed" (E. V.) is joined to the preceding clause and taken as a noun. And Riehm has an ingenious conjecture that the last clause means "it (an evil design) shall not pass my lips."

v. 5. "Hold up my goings" (E. V.) Rather, "my steps hold fast by thy ways."

v. 10. "They are enclosed in their own fat" (E. V.) Literally, "Their fat they have shut up." That is, their fat heart (a symbol of lustiness and pride) they have closed or hardened.

v. 11. "They have set their eyes bowing down to the earth" (E. V.) Heb., "They have set their eyes to bend (us) to the earth," i.e. they are determined to destroy us. Others supply "our steps" from foregoing clause, and interpret "bend our steps," to cause us to stumble or fall.

v. 13. "Disappoint him" (E. V.) Margin : Heb., "prevent his face." But "prevent" here, as frequently in the psalms, has its now obsolete primary meaning of "go before." Here it is "meet him" (as an adversary).

"By thy sword," as in margin.

v. 14. "By thy hand," "which have their portion in this life" (E. V.) is right. But the A. V.—

"Which only in this present life
Their part and portion have,"—

gives it a wrong turn, introducing an idea more familiar to us than to the psalmists.

PSALM XVIII.

vv. 4-5. In the other copy of this great psalm, preserved in 2 Samuel xxii., we have the "waves of death," with "pangs" in the margin. There need be no hesitation in adopting this reading :

"Waves of death encompassed me ;
Floods of destruction made me afraid.
Cords of hell environed me ;
Snares of death came upon me."

"Floods of ungodly men" (E. V.) But the margin gives the Hebrew "Belial;" by some taken as equivalent to "Sheol," the under-world, or even the Devil himself, but best rendered as above.

"Snares of death prevented me" (see preceding note on xvii. 13) is now unmeaning. The Prayer-Book Version is better: "overtook me."

v. 6. "Before him" is omitted in 2 Sam. xxii. 7. See also P. B.

v. 7. "The foundations of the hills." 2 Sam. xxii. 8, "foundations of heaven," which some adopt here.

v. 8. "Coals were kindled by it." (E. V.) Coals burned before him.

v. 11. As it stands E. V. is unsatisfactory, but it is easily mended. We can read either—

"He made darkness his secret place, his pavilion ;
Round about him (were) dark waters and thick clouds of the sky;"

or—

"He made darkness his secret place,
His pavilion round about him :
Dark waters, thick clouds of the sky."

v. 32. "My way perfect." (E. V.) The reference, however, is not, as this would lead us to suppose, to moral, but to physical things—He makes an even way for me.

v. 40. E. V. is literal, but barely intelligible. "To give the

neck " is commonly used intransitively in the sense of showing the back of the neck, *i.e.* running away. Here it must be transitive. "Thou hast let me see the backs of my enemies," *i.e.* put them to flight. "Thou hast made mine enemies also to turn their backs upon me." (P. B.)

v. 44. "At the hearing of the ear they obey" (Heb.) Either "at the very rumour of my approach, they submit;" or "as soon as they hear (E. V.), and exactly as they are told, they obey:" not "shall obey;" he is recounting triumphs gained by the help of God.

"Sons of strangers" (Heb.) Men of strange races—foreign nations.

v. 46. "Yahveh liveth." Some read, "Live Yahveh."

PSALM XIX.

This psalm falls into two portions—1-6, 7-14—very different in subject and style. It is true that we may say that the poet is celebrating God in nature and in revelation. Hitzig and Riehm are right in asserting that it is a fundamental thought of the theocracy, that it is the same God that is Creator and Lawgiver. Moreover, the psalm as it stands gives fine expression to Kant's celebrated saying: "Two things fill the mind with ever-increasing admiration and awe—the starry heavens above and the moral law within." All the same, I am unable to regard these as originally belonging to the same lyric effusion. The first part, which is very fine, seems to be most ancient, and may well be one of David's songs; the latter portion is a good specimen of the later didactic style.

v. 3. "No speech nor language. Their voice is not heard." (E. V., without the italics: and how much better without them!).

"Day unto day uttereth speech;
Night unto night showeth knowledge.
Without speech and without language,
Without voice that can be heard,
Their line is gone out," etc.

The line is a measuring line; and the meaning is, The heavens

extend over all the earth ; and so their words go to the end of the world.

PSALM XX.

It may interest some readers to know that Ewald divides this psalm into three portions, assigning 1-5 to the general congregation, 6-8 to the priests (? a priest ; note the first person singular) ; 9, a brief closing prayer for the congregation.

v. 9. The Masoretic accent notwithstanding, "the king" must go with the first clause. It is not "Save Lord : let the king hear us when we call ;" but, "Yahveh save the king : let him hear us," etc.

PSALM XXI.

This psalm is divided by Ewald in similar fashion—1-7, the people's hymn ; 8-13, the priests' response ; 13, the general closing prayer.

v. 6. "With thy countenance" (E. V.) ; better, "before thy face."

v. 9. "In the time of thine anger" (E. V.). "In the time of thy face" (Heb.), which may mean, in the day thou showest thyself (in thine avenging might).

vv. 11, 12. "They imagine a mischievous device," but will not be able to carry it through ; *because* thou shalt put them to flight.

PSALM XXII.

v. 1. Hupfeld arranges thus—"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me ? 'far from my help,' are the words of my groaning." An old arrangement is, "far from my help are the words of my groaning," *i.e.* are of little help to me.

v. 3. "Inhabitest the praises of Israel"—Yahveh is frequently addressed as dwelling between the cherubim on the mercy-seat. He is therefore throned on the place towards which Israel's praises rise.

v. 9. It may not be necessary here to adopt the reading, "Thou wast my benefactor from the day of my birth ;" but we must prefer to the received reading of the second clause, "Thou madest me lie in peace on my mother's bosom."

v. 16. "The assembly of the wicked" (E. V.) is not a happy phrase ; but "the wicked that did meet in their assembly" (A. V.) is worse. It is just the host, crew, mob, of the wicked.

Some translate "bind my hands and feet." And others, retaining the Kethib, or written text, in preference to the Qeri or Masoretic suggestion, read "like a lion (they surround me) hand and foot."

v. 17. "They stare on me ;" feast their eyes on me, gloat on my pain.

v. 20. "My darling" (E. V.), my only one ; a poetical word for the soul.

v. 21. The verb certainly looks like an indicative, but it may be rendered as a prayer : and surely ought so to be rendered here. "Hear me from the horns of the buffalo ;" short and pregnant poetical form for "Hear and save me from the horns."

v. 27. It is worth noting how this psalm, beginning with bitter and long-drawn complaining, closes with a splendid burst of praise. First we have the psalmist's own ; then he calls in the voices of other mourners ; of all nations ; of living and dead : and at last broadens into a song of endless praise.

v. 29. The last clause is not, as in E. V., a separate proposition, breaking the sense and flow of the passage, but an additional description of the departed, who, with those who are alive and flourishing, are called to praise the Lord.

v. 30. "It shall be accounted to the Lord for a generation" (E. V.) It shall be recounted of the Lord to a generation (yet to come).

PSALM XXIII.

v. 4. It is doubtful whether "the valley of the shadow of death" can be retained. The word seems to be an unusual form of that which means "darkness." Not alone in the shadow of death, but in every place of shadow where we have to go, in the darkness that is so much deeper than that of bodily dying, in all the darkness in midst of which we have to walk, Thou art with us, Thy rod and staff comfort us.

But it would be a shame to meddle with this verse.

PSALM XXIV.

This psalm, or at least the concluding portion of it, which probably was first composed, may very well be David's song for the bringing of the ark to Zion.

v. 6. There is no room to doubt that "God of" must be supplied before Jacob.

v. 7-11. An alternate or antiphonal hymn. The choir, with David and all the house of Israel, amid shouting and sound of trumpets, approaching Zion, sing: "Lift up your heads," etc. Back comes the challenge from within: "Who is the King of Glory?" To which the choir: "The Lord of hosts, He is the King of Glory."

PSALM XXVII.

v. 3. "In this will I be confident" (E. V.) In what? It is better to say, "Even in this case," if we do not with Hupfel translate, "In spite of this."

v. 8. "My heart said unto (or concerning) thee," repeating what God said, echoing as it were the divine invitation, joyfully embracing and following it, "Seek my face. Thy face I do seek, O my God."

v. 13. The original is simply, "Had I not believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living —." It is a pity that we should have to fill up the expressive blank. How much better than our "I had fainted," is David's eloquent silence! He does not like even to think what would have become of him but for his steadfast trust in God.

PSALM XXVIII.

v. 1. "Be not silent *from* me" (Heb.), combining the ideas of silence and of turning away. Compare xxii. 27.

v. 2. "Towards thy holy oracle" (E. V.) "Toward the mercy-seat of thy holy temple" (P. B.) is better. It is "the hindmost," that is the innermost, part of the sanctuary.

PSALM XXIX.

v. 1. "Sons of the mighty" (E. V.), sons of God ; *i.e.* according to most interpreters, "angels."

v. 2. "In the beauty of holiness" (E. V.) "In his glorious sanctuary" (margin) ; but perhaps better : In ornaments of holiness, in festal robes of high worship. Some read, "Worship Jehovah in his glorious holiness."

v. 4-5. No one who had read the noble and nervous words of David could surely have diluted this passage as Mr. Rous or his editors have done. The repetition of "the voice of the Lord," *Qol Yahveh*, quick following like the peals of thunder, is an outstanding feature of the poem.

v. 6. "*Rem*" is almost certainly the buffalo : not the unicorn (whatever that may be) ; no fabulous animal, but a veritable beast, a "calf," such as David had seen bounding upon the plains. Poetry of the order to which this psalm belongs has nothing to do with unicorns.

Sirion is (Deut. iii. 9) an ancient Phœnician name for Hermon, the highest summit of the eastern range of Lebanon.

v. 7. "God's voice splits the flames of fire," *i.e.* sends forth cloven flames and flashes of forked lightning.

PSALM XXX.

v. 5. "In his favour is life" (E. V.) But the Hebrew is—

"A moment in his anger ;
A life in his favour ;
At evening comes weeping ;
But at morning joy."

PSALM XXXI.

v. 6. "Lying vanities" (E. V.) are false gods, idols.

v. 7. "I will be glad" (E. V.) : better, "Let me."

v. 13. "Fear (was) on every side" (E. V.) ; Heb., "*Magor Mis-sabib*," which is given in Jeremiah xx. 3, as a prophetic name to Pashur, the prophet's enemy. This is one of the many

indications which induce critics almost unanimously to assign to that prophet the authorship of this psalm.

v. 21. "In a strong city" (E. V.); "fenced" (margin); others, "beleaguered city." In the former case the meaning is, He hath showed me such kindness that I felt safe as in a fortress; in the latter, He hath been kind to me in distress. Ewald reads "in distress."

PSALM XXXII.

Hitzig assigns to Jeremiah; but the general verdict is in favour of Davidic authorship, and of reference to his sin in the matter of Uriah.

v. 9. "Lest they come nigh unto thee" (E. V.) But we want them to come near, and we use a bridle not to hold them off, but to make them move at our will. The meaning is rather, Be not like senseless beasts, who will not come near to thee unless they be bitted and bridled; but draw near to God of your own accord, because you know it is good to draw near.

PSALM XXXIII.

v. 15. "He formeth their hearts alike" (E. V.); "together," Rabbis, Calvin, etc., meaning all without exception. Or it may be: He it is that at the same time forms their hearts and marks all their doings; *i.e.* the Creator of all hearts must know; He that formed the heart, shall he not understand?

PSALM XXXIV.

This is an alphabetical psalm, one, that is, constructed on the principle of beginning the successive verses with the letters of the alphabet in regular succession; and this, if there were nothing else, is decisive against the correctness of the title. To ascribe this to David is like assigning a sonnet in the manner of Milton or Wordsworth to Chaucer's age.

PSALM XXXV.

v. 1. "Plead my cause," etc. (E. V.) Heb., "Strive with

those that strive with me," parallel to "fight against them that fight against me."

v. 3. "Stop (the way) against, them" (E. V.) So the older interpreters generally—doing their best with a difficult word. The moderns take it as a substantive, designating some kind of weapon—perhaps a battle-axe.

vv. 5 and 6. "Pursue" (E. V.) Strictly in 5, "thrust," and in 6 "pursue." "Chase and persecute" (E. V.)

v. 7. In E. V. the parallelism is obviously halting. "Pit" must belong to the last clause. "For they have privily laid their net to destroy me without a cause; yea, even without a cause have they made a pit for my soul" (P. B.)

PSALM XXXVI.

v. 1. Here E. V. is unintelligible. The Prayer-Book Version at least gives a plain sense: "My heart sheweth me the wickedness of the ungodly, that there is no fear of God before his eyes." According to the present text it is, "An oracle (a song) of the transgression of the wicked is in my heart." But by the change of a single vowel (very slight indeed in Hebrew) it reads simply enough:—

"An oracle of godlessness is in the heart of the wicked,
There is no fear of God before his eyes."

v. 2. A very difficult verse; almost hopelessly so according to the received text. On the whole, the best solution of the puzzle I know is that of Riehm: "For in his (the wicked's) eyes he (God) speaks smoothly (when he speaks) of finding out and hating his iniquity," i.e. The threatenings of divine justice he treats as pleasant words of no account.

v. 5. "Clouds" and "floods" do not rhyme well except according to Scottish vernacular pronunciation; but the whole of this lovely passage is so beautifully rendered that I will lay no irreverent hands upon it.

PSALM XXXVII.

v. 3. The verb is imperative in both clauses; and accordingly some render "Dwell in the land," and interpret "Live quietly,

hoping in God ;" but it is quite admissible grammatically to translate, "Thou shalt dwell," and it runs better so with the other verses.

There is more uncertainty about the latter clause. Literally it is, "Feed in (or on) truth," which is variously paraphrased. The best choice I can offer is between the Authorised Version or something like it, and "Feed upon righteousness."

"Set then thy trust upon the Lord,
Do good with cheerfulness.
Dwell quietly in thine own land ;
And follow righteousness."

v. 8. "Fret not thyself in any wise to do evil" (E. V.) "Fret not thyself, else shalt thou be moved to evil" (P. B.) The Hebrew is, "Fret not thyself, only to do evil." There is no good in fretting.

v. 20. The word "*Karim*" commonly means sheep ; and so the "preciousness of lambs" is taken to mean fat, and the speedy melting of that in the sacrifice is taken as an image of transitoriness. But most scholars now translate "the glory (or fatness) of meadows," i.e. grass.

v. 24. "The Lord upholdeth (him with) his hand," (E. V.) ; but it is simply, "holdeth his hand."

v. 28. There is manifestly something wrong in the text here. Emendation is not easy : but the most probable alteration makes the latter part of the verse read thus :—

"The transgressors are destroyed for ever ;
The seed of the wicked is rooted out."

According to this, lines 3 and 4 should run—

"The wicked are destroy'd ; cut off
Shall be the sinners' race."

v. 35. "Great in power" (E. V.) Heb., terrible—furious. "A green bay-tree" (E. V.) is a tree growing in its own soil ; fresh and flourishing.

v. 36. According to received text it is, as in E. V., "he passed away ;" though some doubt whether the verb has this meaning, and translate impersonally : "one passed by." But there is

another reading which is to be preferred, "I passed by," parallel to, "I sought him." "I went by; and lo! he was gone" (P. B.)

vv. 37-38. "The end of that man is peace." "The end of the wicked shall be cut off" (E. V.) Better—"That shall bring a man peace at the last." "They shall be rooted out at last" (P. B.) But "*acharith*" means "that which comes after;" "end," in the sense of issue or result; also, "what remains of a thing:" but hardly "end," in the sense of termination or death. Here, in fact, it is "posterity," which shall be to the man of peace (the natural order of the words), while that of the wicked shall be cut off—rooted out.

PSALM XXXVIII.

v. 4. The word translated "iniquity" means also consequences of iniquity, punishment; and should be so taken here and in many places in the Psalms.

v. 7. "A loathsome disease" (E. V.) Heb., a burning pain, an inflamed boil.

v. 19. The word rendered "lively" is rejected by many scholars as meaningless, and as an obvious clerical error. There is a word like it in appearance which means "in vain," or "without cause," which completes the parallelism, and makes the verse run like others to the same effect. "Strong" is generally taken as here equivalent to "numerous."

"My enemies without cause are strong;
And many are my haters without grounds."

PSALM XXXIX.

v. 2. "I held my peace (even) from good" (E. V.), commonly understood as "even from good words." But some render it, "without good"—joylessly—comfortless.

v. 3. "While I was musing" (E. V.), *i.e.* brooding over my sorrows, is probably right. But there is high authority for translating "in my fervour," when my heart was stirred.

vv. 4-6. According to Calvin the psalmist here finds fault with God. Ewald, taking the same line, speaks of this as a

keen and almost sarcastic complaint of the shortness of life. But they may be read in a simpler way, as introducing an additional motive for trusting in God (De Wette, etc.)

v. 5. "At his best estate" (E. V.); "settled," (marg.); some making this emphatic read "however fast he stands;" but it seems better to take it simply "every man that stands," *i.e.* lives.

"Altogether vanity" (E. V.) *Hebel*—Breath; *Ganz hauch steht jeder mensch.*

v. 6. "In vain" (E. V.) Yes; it is the same word which is the key-note of the psalm—*Hebel*. They worry themselves about nothing.

v. 11. "His beauty" (E. V.), literally, "his dearest;" not, as in margin, that which is to be desired in him, but that which he most desires or prizes.

Note the recurrence of the short sharp phrase—"Mere breath is every man."

v. 13. "Spare me;" literally, "Look away from me." Turn away thine eyes from me, that my countenance may be cheered for a little before I go.

PSALM XL.

v. 5. "They cannot be reckoned up unto thee" (E. V.) Hupfeld maintains this: but most prefer, "there is none (or nothing) to be compared to thee."

v. 6. "Mine ears hast thou opened" (E. V.); literally "digged;" not "bored (and nailed to the door-post)," as some, but "opened to understand the truth." Obedience better than sacrifice. The LXX., followed in the Epistle to the Hebrews, read "a body hast thou prepared me." How this originated it is hard to say.

v. 11. The verbs here rendered in the imperative or precativ mood—so uncertain is Hebrew syntax—are by some taken as preterites, by others as futures indicative. There may be a slight hiatus here, and the verse dropped out might have helped to decide.

v. 12. See note on xxxviii. 4.

PSALM XLI.

v. 3. To turn or change a sick man's bed is to restore him to health.

v. 13. The concluding doxology does not seem to belong to the original structure of the psalm. The first book of the Hebrew Psalter ends here, and in all probability the doxology was inserted by the editor as a fitting close to the whole.

PSALMS XLII. AND XLIII.

That these form one poem appears from the recurrence of the refrain at regular intervals; from the absence of an inscription to Ps. xliii.; from the similarity of sentiment and expression; and from the necessity, poetical and spiritual, for such a close to xlii. as xliii. supplies.

In A. V., here as elsewhere, instead of marking the occurrence of the refrain, "Why art thou cast down," etc., some pains seems to have been taken to vary the language. In the present edition a contrary method is followed. I once thought of distinguishing such passages by separate type, but from this, as from attempts to indicate the divisions of the poem, I have on second thoughts refrained; preferring to give the verses straight on and unmarked, as they stand in the Hebrew and in our English Bibles. I have been careful, however, to give them in the same language (unless, as occasionally happens, there is a slight variation which appears intentional in the original); and I think faithfulness to the original, here as always, has its reward in imparting life and spirit to the translation.

v. 3. "Continually" (E. V.), or every day.

v. 7. One flood (wave) calls to another as they flow in ceaseless succession over my head, at the voice of thy avenging rain.

v. 8. Yes; the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the day-time. In the morning joy will come (xxx. 5), but the morn is not yet. It is still the night of sorrow with me. But

even in the night, the sorrowful night, I can sing a hopeful song, I can send up a hopeful prayer.

v. 8. "God of my life" (E. V.) So also in next verse it should be strictly, "God of my rock." "God of my strength" (P. B.)

v. 10. "As with a sword in my bones" (E. V.) Properly destruction, breaking to pieces.

PSALM XLIV.

v. 2. The A. V., though poor enough in respect of rhythm and rhyme, is right as to the sense, which is ruined in the prose version. "And cast them out" (E. V.) is wrong.

"Thou didst drive out the heathen,
And plantedst *them* ;
Thou didst afflict the people,
And cause *them* to spread."

v. 19. "The place of jackals" (not dragons) is the desert.

PSALM XLV.

v. 1. "Is inditing" (E. V.) ; the marginal "boileth" or "bubbleth up" is right.

v. 4. This verse begins with the last word of the preceding, which is accordingly rejected as a copyist's mistake. This however is by no means certain, and as the verse as it stands is quite translatable, it is retained. It is, "in thy majesty," in the glorious armour just spoken of.

v. 6. It seems out of the question to take "God" here as a vocative, and to suppose, as the ultra-Messianic interpreters do, that the king is so addressed ; at the same time it must be confessed that it is not easy to translate satisfactorily. The choice would appear to be between "Thy throne is as God's for ever and ever" and "Thy God-established throne ;" *Dein Gottes thron*.

v. 8. There is a word here, *minni*, which has puzzled interpreters, but is generally believed to mean "strings," i.e. music.

The verse, which reads very clumsily in E. V., should therefore run as follows :—

“ Myrrh and aloes, cassia, are all thy garments ;
Out of the ivory palaces stringed instruments give thee delight.”

v. 9. “Honourable women” (E. V.) are not the queen’s maids of honour, but the king’s “treasures” or “jewels.”

v. 12. “The daughter of Tyre” (E. V.) Tyre, the city personified. But it might be, “O daughter of Tyre, they shall flatter thee with gifts.”

v. 13. “Within” can only refer to the palace, although the bridal entry is yet to be described.

v. 16. “Instead of thy fathers,” etc. “Not only,” says Hupfeld, “in their place succeeding them, but like them also in virtue,” filling their fathers’ shoes. It is a wish rather than a prophecy.

PSALM XLVI.

It is neither safe nor useful in general to fix upon a special historical occasion for particular psalms. But in this case it is almost necessary to know that, from Calvin onwards, most students have associated this poem with the invasion of Sennacherib, and some confidently name Isaiah himself as the author. It is good also to remember Luther’s paraphrase, “*Ein feste burg ist unser Gott.*”

v. 3. There is little room to doubt that the refrain originally stood at the end of this as of the other strophes of the poem.

v. 4. There is no river in or near Jerusalem ; but there is a fountain whose streams were of great value, especially in times of siege. The mention of it here forms a beautiful contrast to the stormy sea previously introduced. As that represented the surging multitude of enemies, so is this a type of the peace and security of the people of God. Compare “The waters of Siloah that flow softly” (Isaiah viii. 6).

v. 5. “Right early” (E. V.) Heb., “toward break of morning.”

v. 8. In the word rendered “desolations” (E. V.) are the

two meanings "destruction," and "astonishment," between which interpreters are divided.

PSALM XLVII.

v. 4. "The excellency of Jacob" (E. V.) Heb., "the pride of Jacob;" *i.e.* the land of which the Israelites are proud.

v. 7. "Praises with understanding" (E. V.) "*Maschil*," a word familiar enough in the titles, meaning generally a didactic or edifying poem; here it is simply a song. Ewald, "*ein feines lied*."

v. 9. According to the reading followed by the LXX. and adopted by some critics, differing from the received text by a single vowel-point, the verse runs—

"The nobles of the people are gathered to the God of Abraham."

PSALM XLVIII.

v. 2. "The sides of the north" (E. V.) A very obscure phrase. Olshausen strikes it out altogether as a gloss crept in from the margin. Hupfeld maintains that the word translated "sides" can only mean "furthest," and supports Ewald's idea of a reference to some imaginary hill of God (a Hebrew Olympus) away in the far north. Compare Isaiah xiv. 13.

v. 4. "Passed by together" (E. V.) Some translate, "have gone away," "have vanished."

PSALM XLIX.

v. 4. "Dark saying" (E. V.) is not very felicitous. Doubtless there is etymological ground for it. The word is used for an enigma; but here it is a poem, a didactic poem, dealing indeed with dark things, but striving to make them at least a little more clear. The foregoing "*Maschal*," parable, is used in the same way.

v. 5. "Days of evil." Some take it, "days of the evil man," days when bad men are supreme; but the want of the article is against this, and the common rendering is to be preferred.

"Heels," though maintained by Hupfeld, is harsh and all

but meaningless here. Better to translate *supplanters*, *persecutors*, which falls in with the rest of the passage.

v. 6. Taken in E. V. as commencement of following passage, but regarded by some as in apposition to "persecutors."

v. 10. "He seeth (that) wise men die" (E. V.) Better, "He shall see it [*i.e.* the grave, corruption]. Wise men," etc.

v. 11. According to received text, as E. V.: "Their inward (thought is that) their houses (shall continue) for ever." But instead of "their inward—their houses—for ever," the LXX. have followed a reading which, by a simple transposition of two letters gives, "Their grave (is) their house for ever."

v. 12. There is much in favour of the reading "understandeth not," as in v. 20. The words in Hebrew are very like. It is indeed quite possible that for that very reason the variation may have been made by the poet. But, on the whole, I elect to take "*yabin*" in both cases.

v. 13. "This their way is their folly" (E. V.); good, but not very clear, because "way" may mean either conduct or fate. "Folly" may mean here foolish confidence. The best rendering I have seen is Riehm's: "Such is the way of those who are full of confidence, after whom people delight in their words."

v. 14. "Their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling" (E. V.) According to the received text it is, "their image (their beauty) is corruption, their grave is that which is (a remains) of their habitation." By a slight change, simply "their grave is their habitation."

PSALM L.

v. 6. The heavens, obedient to his call (v. 4), proclaim like heralds his judgment, proclaim that he is now about to judge.

v. 10. I have not meddled with "the cattle on a thousand hills," though I prefer Hupfeld's "hills of thousands," *i.e.* where thousands of cattle roam.

v. 11. "Are mine" (E. V.); margin, "with me." The latter is right. "Familiar to me," parallel to "I know the fowls." But there is no great fault to find with the familiar rendering,

which I follow, though not in so pronounced fashion as the old A. V.

v. 21. Hitzig makes a fine suggestion, that the first clauses are interrogative, as if God were quoting the words or reading the thoughts of the wicked: "Thou didst this and I kept silence; thou thoughtest I was altogether such an one as thyself? I will reprove thee," etc.

PSALM LII.

v. 10. "A right spirit" (E. V.) The marginal "constant" is better; a steadfast spirit.

v. 12. "With (thy) free spirit" (E. V.) As the italics show, there is no "thy" in Hebrew. It is "support me," or "supply me with a free spirit."

PSALM LIII.

v. 2. "Working deceitfully" (E. V.), it must be noted, qualifies "tongue," not "razor." P. B. again is excellent: "And with lies thou cuttest like a sharp razor."

v. 9. "For it is good," here as elsewhere (*e.g.* liv. 6) applies to the name. Not "it is good to praise," but "thy name is good." It would seem natural to read here as in liv. 6, "I will praise thy name," "wait upon thy name" not being accordant with "before thy saints;" but the reading lacks authority.

PSALM LV.

v. 2. "I mourn in my complaint, and make a noise" (E. V.). Heb., I am driven up and down and am disturbed; like a multitude or tumult.

v. 8. "From windy storm" (E. V.) Some render, "faster than the wind."

v. 15. "Let them go down quick into hell" (E. V.); not quickly, speedily, but quick, living, as "the quick and the dead" (Acts x. 42, etc.) Let them die suddenly, in fulness of life and strength.

v. 18. "For there were many with me" (E. V.) But "with me" in a hostile sense. The meaning is: They came with many (to fight) with me.

v. 19. "Shall hear and afflict them" (E. V.) Hupfeld reads "hear and answer me."

"Even he that abideth of old" (E. V.) Heb., He sitteth (i.e. as judge) of old. It is an appeal to the Eternal Justice.

"Because they have no changes" is a phrase of which numerous explanations have been given, but none which is very satisfactory. On the whole, the simplest and best appears to be this: "Because they constantly do evil."

PSALM LVI.

v. 2. "O thou most High" (E. V.) The word should rather be construed adverbially, "loftily, proudly."

v. 3. "What time I am afraid" (E. V.) The Hebrew is like our familiar idiom, "The day I fear."

v. 4. "I will not fear what flesh can do unto me" (E. V.) Right enough; but more strictly it is, "I will not fear; what can flesh do to me?"

v. 7. The present reading, "*pallet*," yields no good sense; and most scholars agree to amend by changing a letter. With "*palles*," the meaning is, "Weigh out to them according to their iniquity."

v. 8. "Wanderings" some render "complaints."

"Book" seems to be right enough, though some prefer "reckoning."

v. 10. "Through God" seems better than "in God," to suggest the meaning: By, or because of, God's grace I can praise his word.

v. 13. "(Wilt) not (thou deliver) my feet from falling" (E. V.); "and my feet from falling" (P. B.) The latter is right. "Yea, my feet," etc.

PSALM LVII.

v. 3. The second clause is difficult; so difficult that some critics who are not easily baffled give it up in despair. Apart from its difficulty, and its breaking the sense, the presence of *Selah* (a musical sign occurring only at the end of a period) is

suspicious. Retaining the clause, the choice lies between the common rendering, "save me from the reproach of him that would swallow me up" (E. V.), and that given in margin, "he reproacheth him that swalloweth me up." He bringeth my persecutors to shame.

v. 4. "I lie among them that are set on fire" (E. V.) is not very lucid. The word commonly means, flaming, burning—and it may be, breathing out fire and fury. But perhaps it rather refers to the devouring might of fire, and, as parallel to lions, devouring greedy beasts.

v. 6. In this case also there is a clause which seems superfluous, and is unquestionably hard to construe: "my soul is bowed down." Many attempts have been made in the way of conjectural emendation, the most plausible being those of Hitzig, "*his* soul," and Ewald, "*their* soul." According to this, the clause becomes parallel to "they have fallen into their own pit."

v. 8. "I (myself) will awake early." (E. V.) This is the common rendering; but the poet's words are finer: "I will awake the dawn." Hitzig points differently, reading, "Wake up, my spirit, wake up! I will awake harp and zither at daybreak."

PSALM LVIII.

v. 1. According to the received text it is, "Do ye speak the silence of justice," whatever that may mean. But LXX. and Vulgate read "indeed," while others, by a different pointing, make out, "O ye gods!" (*i.e.* judges). "O congregation" and "O ye sons of men" (E. V.) are certainly wrong. It is, "Do ye judge the sons of men uprightly."

v. 2. "Ye weigh the violence of your hands upon the earth" (E. V.)—*i.e.* Instead of weighing out to men equal justice, you deal out violence.

v. 9. A verse evidently descriptive of sudden overthrow, but difficult to construe. The simplest rendering is Fürst's: Before your pots feel the thorns (before they begin to boil), the storm drives away both thorn and thistle (or fresh and dry).

PSALM LIX.

v. 9. "(Because of) his strength" (E. V.) is nonsense. I follow the reading, "my strength!"

v. 11. "Slay them not" (E. V.), *i.e.* Slay them not outright, but keep them in misery as a constant warning.

v. 15. A little obscure in E. V. Meaning is, Let them pass the night starving.

PSALM LX.

v. 3. "Wine of astonishment" (E. V.); literally, "wine that causes one to reel." Hupfeld, "Thou hast made us drink astonishment (*taumel*) like wine."

v. 4. The Masoretic reading followed in E. V. is hardly admissible. We must read either, "Thou givest them that fear thee a banner to shine for them because of their faithfulness," or (better) "thou givest a banner for them to flee to from before the bow."

v. 6. By some, "I will rejoice" is joined to first clause, "I will rejoice" (in what God hath spoken), and the oracle begins with, "I will divide."

v. 7. "Ephraim also is the strength of my head; Judah is my lawgiver" (E. V.) But why discard the more vivid, and therefore more poetical original, "Ephraim my helmet, Judah my sceptre"?

v. 8. "Philistia, triumph thou because of me" (E. V.) is unintelligible. And the more correct marginal, "over me," could only, as explained, be said by an irony. We have this passage repeated in Psalm cviii., and there it is, "Over Philistia will I triumph," which doubtless is the true text. A slight alteration gives here, "Over Philistia, my triumph."

PSALM LXI.

v. 1. "That is higher than I" (E. V.) Better, "too high for me;" *i.e.* inaccessible to my own strength. God must not only provide a rock of refuge, but lift us up and set us on it.

PSALM LXII.

v. 1. According to the common rendering this first verse should run :

“Still is my soul, waits patiently,
Since God is on my side ;”

but the Hebrew is “Still, my soul ! to God”—and it is “Be still” at v. 6. So this may be allowed.

v. 3. “How long will ye imagine mischief against a man ?” (E. V.) The word rendered “mischief” is found nowhere else, and is of doubtful meaning. The best scholars now translate “assail,” “attack.” The succeeding clauses describe the person assailed :

“How long will ye assail a man,
Will slay (him) all of you,
As a bowing wall,
And a tottering fence.”

PSALM LXIV.

v. 6. “They search out iniquities” (E. V.) They devise new and strange misdeeds. They accomplish, not “a diligent search” (E. V.), but that which they have cunningly contrived. Others, “they conceal.”

PSALM LXV.

v. 5. “Wondrous things in righteousness hast thou answered”—i.e. “hast thou done in answer to our prayers,” as A. V. correctly explains, but at somewhat too great length.

Last clause is, “All ends of earth and sea, which are distant,” or “ends of earth and distant sea.”

v. 8. “Outgoings” (E. V.) It is “upgoings of the morning and (downgoings) of evening.” East and west.

v. 9. “The river of God” is here the rain.

“When thou hast so provided for it” (E. V.) Rather, “for so thou preparest”—so thou art wont to send the rain to cause the corn to grow.

v. 10. “Thou settlest the furrows” (E. V.) Bendest or pressest down.

v. 12. Yea, even the pastures of the wilderness drop fatness : and the hills gird themselves with joy . . . deck themselves all round with pastures which give joy.

PSALM LXVI.

v. 11. "Into the net" (E. V.) So commonly : but better, Into a place or state of captivity.

v. 12. "Into a wealthy place" (E. V.) According to received text we should have to render "superfluity," "overflow ;" but there is another reading which gives "freedom."

PSALM LXVIII.

v. 4. "Extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name Jah" (E. V.) The word rendered "heavens," after a guess of the Chaldee and Rabbis, means "desert." That translated "extol" is the usual word for casting up and levelling a highway for the passage of kings and armies. The reference is to the journey through the wilderness :

"Make a highway for him that rideth through the desert :
Yah is his name."

v. 6. "God setteth the solitary in families : he bringeth out those that are bound with chains" (E. V.) :

"God bringeth home the solitary (exiles or prisoners),
Bringeth out the prisoners into prosperity."

v. 10. "Thy congregation" (E. V.) ; literally, "thy living."

v. 11. "The Lord gave the word" (E. V.), i.e. the news or the song of victory, and that again is, gave the victory—the occasion for a song of triumph. Those that published it (the preachers. P. B.!) are the singing women (the word is feminine), such as celebrated the early triumphs of David.

v. 13. This verse is obscure in the extreme. The interpretations are very various, some of them very marvellous. "Folds" and not "pots" seems to be the true rendering of the difficult word in the first clause. The reference to the Song of Deborah (whose influence on the whole psalm is very marked) can hardly

be missed ; and the inference seems sound that here we have a passing word of scorn for those that refused to come "to the help of the Lord against the mighty." What the last clause means can only be conjectured. The best guess I have seen—it can hardly be called more—is, that the recreants are depicted as lying lazily among the sheepfolds, admiring the varied plumage of the doves flitting round : certainly a fine contrast to the fatigues and perils of their brethren in the field.

v. 14. The same remarks apply here. Probably, in both cases, we have snatches of old songs adapted, whose reference would be at once caught up by the Hebrews, but is dark to us who have not the songs. "Salmon" is almost certainly a mountain. Amid the multitude of guesses one is fain to be content with that started by Herder, that the reference is still to the recreants : "When the Almighty was scattering the hostile kings before the faithful Israelites, it was snowing on Salmon, and the tender warriors stayed snugly at home." The common interpretation is, that the bleaching of the bones of the dead whitened the hillside like snow ; which they may accept who can.

v. 15-16. The italics, as often happens, spoil E. V. It is not "the hill of God (is as) the hill of Bashan," but—

"A sacred hill is the hill of Bashan,

A lofty (or many-peaked) hill is the hill of Bashan."

This hill, proud of its height and its ancient sanctity, is jealous of the choice of Zion as the dwelling-place of Yahveh. The rare word rendered by the Rabbis "leap," appears from its philological connection to mean "gaze at"—Why do ye look with envy on Zion ?

v. 17. As it stands, the mention of Sinai, "the Lord is among them (his angels) in Sinai in holiness," is perplexing. Most interpreters, feeling this, are constrained to insert, as in E. V., but without grammatical warrant, "as:" "the Lord is in Zion as he was in Sinai." Hupfeld suggests an amended reading, "the Lord comes from Sinai into his sanctuary." Failing some such resort, we can only render, "the Lord among them—a Sinai for holiness"—Zion is another Sinai.

v. 18. "On high" (E. V.) Whether to Zion or to heaven is a matter of dispute. In either case the figure is of the triumphal march of a conqueror with his captives (not captivity), and the gifts or tribute he has received among men (not "for" men.) The last clause describes the enemies as dwelling beside Yahveh, either as no longer able to resist, or as absorbed into his community.

v. 19. "Who daily loadeth us with benefits" (E. V.) Literally, "Layeth upon us." Hupfeld indeed translates "beareth" and Ewald "helpeth us to bear," and not without support from Isa. xlv. 1, 3. Accepting "layeth" as the meaning, it may be taken as in E. V., in a good sense; only this is against all usage. The common use is "of laying burdens on people," and we may either read it impersonally, "if they lay burdens upon us, yet is God," etc., or, following Luther, "Though he lay burdens upon us, yet is he the God of our Salvation."

v. 20. "The issues from death" are "the ways of escape from death;" and the clause is parallel to "God is a God of salvation," or deliverance.

v. 22. The object is not expressed. It cannot well be "my people" (E. V.), since the passage relates to revenge upon enemies. It is these, the foes that may have escaped, that are to be brought for vengeance, though they are far as the top of Bashan and deep as the channels of the sea. Compare Amos ix. 2.

v. 24. Not "in the sanctuary" (E. V.) but "to" it. Further description of God's triumphal entry to Zion.

v. 26. (E. V.) right; in the margin, "ye that are from the fountains of Israel," that is, children of Israel.

v. 28. "Thy God" can hardly be right. Most follow the reading, "command, O God, thy strength;" parallel to the following clause.

v. 30. "The company of spearmen" (E. V.) is wrong. It is as in margin, "the beasts of the reeds," or rather "the beast." Probably the crocodile, as the symbol of Egypt. Ewald says the lion, symbol of Persia; others, the boar. The bulls and calves are the leaders and masses of hostile nations generally.

v. 34. "His excellency is over Israel" (E. V.) His majesty, Höheit, is over Israel (for a defence).

PSALM LXIX.

v. 4. Some ancient and many modern interpreters favour another reading, "than my bones :"

"More than my hairs, stronger than my bones."

v. 5. "Sins." There is much in favour of translating here, as in some other places, "chastisements."

v. 22. "(That which should have been) for (their) welfare" (E. V.) Heb., "to the peaceful," i.e. to them in the time of their ease and security.

PSALM LXXI.

v. 20. The singular here is a Masoretic emendation. The introduction of a national reference in the midst of prayers, etc., in the singular is surprising, and doubtless led to the change. It is better to abide by the written text (*Kethib*) in this case. "The depths of the earth" (E. V.) is literally accurate. But the word is the common one for floods. Some explain deep places of the earth filled with water. It is a figure of great trouble.

v. 21. The word "greatness" here is that usually applied to the majesty of God ; and various expedients have been tried to avoid "my greatness."

"Comfort me on every side" (E. V.) Heb., "turn and comfort me," i.e. comfort me again.

PSALM LXXII.

v. 3. "The hills," as representing the land generally. Under the reign of the righteous king, let it be blessed with peace. Strictly speaking, the verbs throughout ought to be in the optative or precative mood. This is a prayer for the king. As, however, to a very strong faith, prayer becomes prophecy, and this hymn is used in the Christian Church with reference

to the kingdom of Christ, it seems better on the whole to retain the futures.

v. 5. "Thee," *i.e.* the king. Some even read "him."

v. 9. "They that dwell in the wilderness." The word is generally (if not always) applied to wild beasts. It is harsh to apply it to human inhabitants, or nomads; and besides, it hardly suits the parallelism. A very slight change, the enlargement of a single letter, gives the common word for "adversaries."

v. 15. "He shall live." With the exception of Luther and Calvin, all the great interpreters refer this to the poor. He lives (as the result of the king's just protection); instead of being brought to the grave by oppression he lives, and (in token of gratitude) brings gifts to the king, prays for him, and extols him every day. The confusion of pronouns is avoided by making this plural, as in v. 14 and latter half of the verse.

v. 16. "Handful" (E. V.) The word is obscure; and it requires somewhat far-fetched exegesis to make this rendering yield anything like sense. "Abundance," for which there is good warrant, is certainly to be preferred:

"There shall be abundance of corn in the land, on the tops of the mountains;

Its fruit shall rustle like (cedars of) Lebanon:

They shall flourish out of the city as the grass does from the ground."

PSALM LXXIII.

v. 4. "No bands in their death" (E. V.) Heb., "to their death," which may mean either, "no agonies in dying," or (better) "no pains *till* their death," all their days. By an ingenious, and not very violent change of the text, Ewald obtains, "They have no pains: sound and fat is their body."

v. 6. "Pride is their necklace,
Violence covereth them as an ornament."

v. 7. Usually taken as a vivid description of their prosperous state. But the translation in the first clause is forced, and in

the second wrong. It is generally agreed that for "eyes" we must substitute "iniquity" (the Hebrew words are similar), in which case the verse runs thus—

"Their iniquity is gone out of their heart ;
They overflow with thoughts of evil."

v. 10. The sudden introduction of the singular has led to some confusion in interpretation. According to the Qeri we must read "therefore his people turns hither." But the Kethib would give, "therefore he (the wicked man) turns his people," causes others to turn aside to join his company, "and then waters in abundance are greedily swallowed by them."

v. 12. "Behold, these are the ungodly men," etc. (E. V.), or, "see these are ungodly men, and yet, secure for ever, they heap up wealth."

v. 15. "I should betray thy children ;" *i.e.* Israel, especially here the pious among them. I should deceive, mislead them.

v. 24. "Receive me to glory" (E. V.) There is some reason to believe that strictly this should be "receive me honourably." But as good scholars, both orthodox and liberal, maintain the nobler meaning, it shall stand.

v. 26. E. V. substantially right. It is, "should my flesh and heart fail, yet is God the strength," etc.

PSALM LXXIV.

v. 2. "Rod of thine inheritance" can only mean, a portion measured off by a rod.

v. 3. "Lift up thy feet unto the perpetual desolations" (E. V.) ; *i.e.* "Arise and repair them."

The second clause is, "the enemy has wickedly destroyed all in thy temple."

v. 4. "They set up their ensigns for signs" (E. V.) Various interpreted, but most simply, of "signs of the Covenant." The enemy set up their symbols (or observances) in place of those of Israel.

v. 5. E. V. is quite at fault here. It is simple enough ; "As when a man is hewing down a thicket, they break," etc.

v. 9. "Signs," as in v. 4.

v. 11. "Pluck it out of thy bosom" (E. V.) Better, "Out with it from thy bosom! Destroy!"

v. 15. "Thou didst cleave the fountain" (E. V.), *i.e.* "by cleaving (rocks) thou didst produce fountains." "Thou bringest out fountains and waters out of the hard rocks" (P. B.) A fine antithesis to drying up rivers and seas.

v. 19. The construing of this verse is difficult, or rather impossible: but the meaning is plain. "Multitude" (E. V.) is not satisfactory. Some say "beast of fury;" others "evil desire."

v. 20. "The dark places of the earth" are probably the caves where robbers lurk and store their spoils. Hupfeld suggests that the holy land is meant, as being now a land of darkness and sorrow.

v. 22. As already remarked, "plead" is not, now at least, a satisfactory rendering. It expresses in common language soft persuasiveness and entreaty. Even as a forensic term it is too mild. When God is asked to plead his cause, it is not meant that he should argue his case, or commend his request, but that he should fight his own battle. See note on xxxv. 1.

v. 23. I have retained "grows," "increaseth" (E. V.), which suits well enough: but strictly the marginal "ascendeth"—goeth up to heaven, into God's ear, is to be preferred. Compare *Jonah* i. 2.

PSALM LXXV.

v. 1. According to the accents, "thy name is near" belongs to the first clause; but the construction of E. V. has the support of good critics.

v. 2. "Receive the congregation" (E. V.) Margin is right: "When I shall take hold of the set time."

v. 6. This is best taken generally, as meaning not from any earthly quarter. But some (see Stanley, *Jewish Church*, iii. 50) interpret as pointing to the north as the seat of future change.

v. 8. E. V. substantially correct. The cup foams over with mixed, *i.e.* spiced wine. "Wring them out" is not a good phrase: the meaning is, swallow them—drain the cup.

PSALM LXXVI.

v. 3. "The arrows of the bow" (E. V.) Literally, "lightnings of the bow." "The battle" stands here for "weapons of war."

v. 4. The Hebrew may be either "as" or "from" the hills of prey. I adhere to the common rendering, though I much prefer the other, "Terrible art thou from the hills of prey," the hills whence thou sweepest down upon thy prey.

v. 10. "The wrath of man shall praise thee (by giving occasion for the manifestation of thy glory in judgment): and with the remainder thou girded thyself." So the received text. But the LXX., followed by several moderns, read "celebrate:" "the remainder of wrath shall celebrate thee." Fürst assigns to "*chamath*" a second meaning, "multitude," which, with the reading of the LXX., would give us "the rest of the multitude shall celebrate thee."

v. 12. "Cut off the spirit" (E. V.) According to English idiom, break their spirit, tame their pride.

PSALM LXXVII.

v. 1. "My voice to God—and I will cry;
My voice to God—and he will give ear unto me."

v. 2. "My sore ran in the night" (E. V.) The Hebrew is "my hand was poured out." The Rabbis, finding this somewhat of a mixed or violent metaphor, imagined for "hand" a passive signification, that which is inflicted by the hand, a wound. The meaning is "stretched out," as a sign of outpouring of soul.

v. 10. The second clause is very difficult. Certainly the most obvious rendering is "the years of the right hand of the Most High;" and that may either be supplemented, as in E. V., "I will remember," or taken as an emphatic expression of the long duration of his sufferings. But the word rendered "years" is by some regarded as a verb meaning "change;" and thus we may read either, "the right hand of the Most High will change it," or, "this is my trouble (that I thought) that the hand of the Most High had changed."

v. 13. "In the sanctuary" (E. V.) should be "in holiness," majesty.

v. 18. "In the heaven" (E. V.) The word means "rolling," hence "a wheel," hence (somewhat far-fetchedly) the "sphere of heaven." Some translate "whirlwind;" others refer to the wheels of God's chariot. Best to keep to the more general word.

v. 19. "Thy way was in the (Red) Sea;
And thy footsteps left no trace."

PSALM LXXVIII.

v. 23. "Though he had commanded" (E. V.) It is "and," or "so" he had commanded.

v. 30. "They were not estranged from their lust" (E. V.) An obscure phrase. Either, "they were not cured of their lust," or, "they were not turned from the object (or gratification) of it." The latter suits the parallel clause:

"They were still enjoying their lust;
The meat was yet in their mouths."

v. 33. E. V. is slightly feeble.

"He caused their days to vanish like a breath,
And their years in terror" (sudden destruction).

v. 41. "Limited" (E. V.) The verb has another meaning, "grieved," which perhaps suits better here.

v. 49. "Evil angels" (E. V.) Messengers of evil, instruments for working ill.

v. 63. "Given to marriage" (E. V.) Margin, "praised," saluted with bridal songs.

v. 65. "By wine refreshed" suits our notions of propriety, but does not quite answer to the language of the poet.

v. 66. Here, on the other hand, E. V. is unnecessarily particular and mean.

PSALM LXXIX.

v. 8. "Former sins," *i.e.* sins of our predecessors.

PSALM LXXX.

v. 15. "Branch." Heb., "son."

PSALM LXXXI.

v. 5. "Where I heard a language that I understood not." Commonly the Egyptian. Some take it as the voice of God, whether in oracle or in his saving deeds, which he understood not at first, but now comprehends, and as it were translates.

v. 6. "Pots" (E. V.), or, baskets for carrying loads.

v. 7. "The secret place of thunder" is the dark cloud.

v. 12. "So I gave them up to their own hearts' lust" (E. V.) So in their hardness of heart I let them go.

PSALM LXXXIII.

v. 12. "Houses" (E. V.) Heb., "pastures."

v. 13. "A wheel" (E. V.) Heb., "rolling" (lxxvii. 18). Hence "wheel," also "whirlwind." Here, apparently, the dust raised by the wind, whirling dust.

PSALM LXXXIV.

v. 3. Third and fourth lines from Milton's version.

v. 6. A difficult verse. "*Baca*" is said by some to be "the balsam vale." Any way, it is the name of a very dry valley which—so the loving fancy of the poet declares—under the feet of pious pilgrims becomes a place of freshness and loveliness. I incline to take "*Moreh*" in second clause as the name of another dry valley; "even Moreh covers itself with blessings." Perhaps Calvin and E. V. are right in rendering "ponds."

v. 10. So in the version of the Marquis of Lorne.

PSALM LXXXV.

v. 13. "And shall set (us) in the way of his steps" (E. V.) Heb., "and shall make a way (of) his steps," i.e. shall follow him.

"Righteousness shall go before,
Justice shall follow in his steps."

PSALM LXXXVI.

v. 11. "Unite my heart" (E. V.) Make it one. Give me a single heart, fixed with undivided affection on thee alone. Compare Jeremiah xxxii. 39.

v. 13. "Lowest hell" (E. V.), though adopted by Ewald, would seem to be unnecessarily strong. Perhaps "deep grave," or "*sheol* below," is better.

PSALM LXXXVII.

v. 1. The opening of this song is abrupt. As it stands, the best way is to take "Yahveh loveth" from the following verse. Some, however, are convinced that some words must have been dropped. Ewald supplies—

"(Zion is the Lord's for ever ;)
The city of his founding on holy hills."

and Olshausen—

"(O how lovely is the city of God !)
Which he hath founded on his holy hill."

v. 4. "I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me" (E. V.) Rather, "I will mention Rahab and Babylon as them that know me." Rahab is Egypt.

v. 5. "Of Zion." Rather, "to Zion," but the meaning is the same. Jerusalem is to be the metropolis of the world. In all lands, even those which were formerly most hostile, it will be a man's distinction that he is a citizen of Zion.

v. 7. "All my springs are in thee" (E. V.), as if he said, all my solace and delight. Other renderings are, "protection ;" "arts," parallel to the singing and playing. Hupfeld changes the text and translates, "all that dwell in thee sing and dance (for joy)."

PSALM LXXXVIII.

v. 5. "Free among the dead" (E. V.) The word generally does mean "free," but many, founding on an Arabic analogy, give it here the meaning, "stretched out."

v. 18. "Mine acquaintance into darkness" (E. V.), *i.e.* "thou hast put into darkness." Heb., "mine acquaintance darkness."

"Lover and friend hast thou put far from me :
And mine acquaintance is darkness."

Compare Job xvii. 14.

PSALM LXXXIX.

v. 5. "The congregation of the saints" (E. V.) Heb., "the gathering of the holy ones;" and here evidently not on earth but in heaven: therefore, the company of the angels.

v. 10. Rahab is commonly the emblem of Egypt, but is by some taken indefinitely here, "the monster."

v. 14. "Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne" (E. V.) Margin is better, the "establishment" or support, the pillars of the throne.

v. 22. "Exact upon him" (E. V.), *i.e.* oppress him like an exacting creditor.

v. 37. "And (as) a faithful witness in heaven" (E. V.) Heb., "the witness in heaven is true." The clause may be construed either as a part of the divine promise, or as the poet's remark at the close of his report thereof. In any case it is not a simile, but a seal or attestation.

v. 47. "Wherefore hast thou made all men in vain?" (E. V.) Heb., "to what nothingness thou hast made."

"Remember how short my time is;
How fleeting thou hast made all mankind."

v. 50. Last clause difficult to construe. The meaning is substantially given in E. V. "Many" people is better than "mighty."

v. 51. "Footsteps" (E. V.) In the singular "heel," but this form of the plural used for "footprints."

PSALM XC.

v. 3. "Yet afterwards thou sayest, Return," as some have it, and as seems from frequent allusion and quotation to be generally assumed, as if God were bringing back men from the grave to which he had sent them, is quite away from the meaning of the poet. It is "return," *i.e.* to the dust, or simply "depart."

v. 4. If, as seems probable, the clause "when it is past" refers to the thousand years, which when they are past are to

the Lord but as yesterday or a night watch, this would be made more clear by saying, "when they are past." But the thousand years are thought of in the aggregate—a millennium—and so we may let the singular stand.

v. 5. Ewald, disliking the intrusion of the figure of an inundation, contrives somehow to read, "their generations are like a morning dream." Both he and Hupfeld take in the "morning" from the second and tack it on to the first clause.

v. 9. "As a tale (that is told)" (E. V.) This rendering, adopted from the Chaldee, is untenable. It is, "like a thought or sigh"—*ὡς ἄνεμος*. This is far finer and truer than a tale told; and, unwilling as one is to disturb the grave beauty of this verse in A. V., this fine image must be restored.

v. 10. "It is soon cut off" (E. V.) So the older interpreters. The moderns incline to refer to another root meaning "passes quickly by," it is soon over. "So soon passeth it away" (P. B.)

v. 11. The second clause is part of the question. It is not "according to thy fear (so is) thy wrath" (E. V.), the sense of which, if sense it has, is obscure; but "and (who knoweth) according to thy fear thy wrath?" Who recognises the power of thy wrath with becoming reverence?

v. 17. The word here and in xxvii. 4 rendered "beauty," means "pleasantness" (it is the same as in the name *Naomi*, my pleasantness), but seems, here at least, to denote rather the grace or favour of God. The ideas are naturally allied, as most languages testify; *χάρις, gratia*—German *huld, hold* (Gesenius.) We have in English suggestive examples in *graceful* and *well-favoured*.

PSALM XCI.

v. 1-2. These verses are hard to construe. One way is that of E. V., which is too like an identical proposition, especially if for "secret place" we read "defence." Some supply "blessed is he" before v. 1, and read "who says" at the beginning of v. 2. Others take v. 1 as a description of the psalmist himself, in apposition to the pronoun of v. 2; "He that dwelleth in the protection of the Most High, and abideth under the shadow of the Almighty, I will," etc.

v. 5. Neither a night surprise nor an open onset needst thou fear.

v. 6. Both words mean "destruction" generally, and specifically "pestilence."

v. 9. E. V. is substantially right, but the construing is indefensible. As it stands the verse is, "Because thou *Yahveh* art my refuge, thou hast chosen the Most High for thy defence." It is hardly doubtful that if "thou hast said" has not actually dropped out, it was intended to be understood—

"Because thou hast said, Thou, Lord, art my refuge;
Hast chosen the Most High for thy defence."

v. 14. "Set on high" (E. V.) Usually in the way of honour; here, however, of safety. Delivered, not exalted.

The last verses are in the form of an oracular utterance.

PSALM XCII.

v. 13. This verse is not, as in E. V., a separate proposition, but a continuation of the figure of v. 12.

PSALM XCIV.

v. 10. "*Shall not he know*" (E. V.), supplied, as the italics show, and better away altogether.

v. 15. Judgment (the actual administration of divine justice) shall turn to righteousness—shall be brought into accordance with the principles of eternal right. The judgment of God shall no longer tarry. God will do justice upon evil-doers.

v. 20. Shall wicked rulers have fellowship with thee who plan mischief—"instead of right," say some; others "against right:" but others still (and considering that it is iniquity on the throne wielding the powers of public justice, not without good reason) "by the law" (E. V.), under its cover, abusing its form. "As a law" (P. B.)

PSALM XCV.

v. 7. Some critics, following the lead of Calvin, read, "the people of his hand, and the sheep of his pasture." This is the

natural construction ; but the confusion may have been intentional.

v. 8. "Provocation," "temptation" (E. V.) Heb., "*Meribah*," "*Massah*," names of places in the wilderness, meaning "strife," "trial."

PSALM XCVI.

v. 9. "In beauty of holiness." See Ps. xxxi. 2. "His holiness" (A. V.) is wrong : though Hupfeld renders—"worship Jahveh in his holy majesty." It is, "in the robes or ornaments of worship."

PSALM XCVII.

v. 2. "Habitation" (E. V.) Better, "pillars;" lxxxix. 14.

PSALM XCIX.

v. 3. "For it is holy" (E. V.) Rather, "for he is holy"—a refrain recurring at v. 5, and again with the name at the end.

v. 4. "The king's strength"—as we say, the Queen's most excellent majesty.

v. 8. "Though thou tookest vengeance" (E. V.) : "though" is certainly wrong. It was probably introduced for the same theological reason which led Bishop Hammond so far astray as to render "when thou wast ready to take vengeance," and to interpret that he laid aside his intention at the intercession of Moses, Aaron, and Samuel. But forgiveness is not mere letting off from punishment. We may taste forgiveness while yet we are suffering the consequences of our sins. At all events, the psalmist says not "though" but "and." "Thou forgavest them, O God, and punishedst their own inventions" (P. B.)

PSALM C.

v. 3. Often as we have sung, "Without our aid he did us make" (A. V.), and difficult as it probably will be to displace it, it is a weak statement, nearer the ridiculous than the sublime. For it is not, as Hengstenberg and others paraphrase it, "he has chosen us, and not we ourselves ;" but simply, "he has made us."

The Masoretic editors have put it right in the Qeri, "and his are we."

PSALM CI.

- v. 8. "Early" (E. V.) Rather, "every morning."

PSALM CII.

- v. 3. "As an hearth" (E. V.) Rather, "as a burning fagot."
 v. 8. "Are sworn against me." (E. V.) But it may be, "Swear by me." I am become a proverb for wretchedness, my name is a standing curse." See Isaiah lxxv. 15 : and for the opposite, Psalm lxxii. 17.

PSALM CIII.

- v. 5. "Thy mouth" (E. V.) The word is obscure. Some take it as "ornament," used as "glory" is so often, for "soul : " others translate "age." In xxxii. 9, it is used for the ornaments or trappings of a horse or mule—which would seem to favour the former view ; but Gesenius, who gives it that meaning in the other passage, declares for "age" here.

PSALM CIV.

- v. 4. "Who maketh the winds his messengers,
 The lightnings his servants."
 v. 8. "The mountains go up ;
 The valleys descend.
 (apparent) effect of subsidence of waters.
 v. 10. "He sendeth the springs into the valleys" (E. V.) "*Nahal*" is properly a brook or river ; only as secondary meaning a valley. It is better to translate, "he lets fountains swell into rivers and run between the hills."
 v. 13. "The fruit of thy works" is here apparently the rain, "fruit of clouds which are thy workmanship."
 v. 15. E. V. ; marginal to be preferred—

"Wine that cheers the heart of man ;
 And makes his face shine more than oil."

v. 16. "Full (of sap)" (E. V.) The trees are satisfied with rain like the earth in v. 13.

v. 18. "The conies," it seems, are Jerboas.

v. 19. "For seasons" (E. V.), *i.e.* for festival seasons :

"He hath made the moon for feasts ;

The sun knoweth his going down (because the time is fixed by God)."

v. 26. "To play therein" (E. V.) Some say "to play with him:" not a bad idea, that the mightiest of living creatures are but as playthings in the hands of the Almighty. But there seems little reason to doubt that "therein" is the better translation.

v. 28. "(That) thou givest" (E. V.) Better (as often is the case) without the supplementary word :

"Thou givest them—they gather ;

Thou openest thine hand—they satisfy themselves with good."

v. 34. "My meditation of him shall be sweet" (E. V.) Heb., "may my song please him."

PSALM CV.

v. 15. "Anointed" applies here not to kings and priests only, but includes the whole people. "Prophets" not in the later and official sense, but again the whole people as God's inspired.

v. 19. The word of the Lord tried Joseph as silver is tried, approved him. The first clause means, until the word of the Lord spoken by Joseph was fulfilled, and Joseph was proved to be a true man and a servant of Yahveh.

PSALM CVII.

v. 4. "In a solitary way" (E. V.) Heb., "in a desert of way," a pathless desert. Some join to following clause, "they found no way to a city," etc.

v. 20. "From their destructions" (E. V.) Heb., "from their graves," *i.e.* from their death.

v. 23-30. Perhaps, strictly, the verbs are preterites : but the present is allowable, and in this passage certainly to be preferred.

PSALM CVIII.

v. 2. See lvii. 8. This psalm is strangely made up (with unimportant variations) of lvii. 7-11 and lx. 5-12.

PSALM CIX.

v. 6. "Satan," not here a proper name, but an adversary.

v. 10. "Let them beg from their ruins." Another reading is, "let them be driven from their ruins," that is, from the ruins of their family place.

v. 23. "Tossed up and down" (E. V.) Heb., "thrown away," "shaken off like a venomous creature."

PSALM CX.

v. 3. "In the day of thy power" (E. V.) ; of thine *army*. In the day of thy marching out to war, thy people shall be willing. "In the beauty of holiness" (a strange phrase for warlike pomp, but expressing the feeling of the time, and not inappropriate to the host of a king so specially favoured, a priest-king). "From the womb of the dawn, hast thou the dew of thy youth." The flower of the young men of his kingdom, splendidly armed, flock with the earliest light to his banner.

v. 4. Melchizedek (king of righteousness), king of Salem.

v. 7. A little scene from the war. In the heat of the conflict, or say, of the pursuit, the hero king stoops to drink from the wayside brook, and lifts up his head radiant and refreshed for new deeds.

PSALM CXII.

v. 5. "A good man showeth favour" (E. V.) Better, "good to the man." Blessed is the man that showeth favour.

PSALM CXIII.

v. 9. "He maketh the barren woman to keep house" (E. V.) Not, as some, "the barren of house," i.e. without family. He setteth (giveth a secure position by bestowing children) the barren wife of the house.

PSALM CXV.

v. 16. The heaven is a heaven for God (Heb.)

PSALM CXVI.

v. 10. "I believe when I speak," (or past tense) ; meaning obscure.

v. 11. "In my haste" (E. V.) Rather, "in my alarm or extremity." The verb is "to flee in haste;" hence, to be terror-struck. He said when he was in trouble, All men are deceitful, not to be relied upon for help in extremity.

PSALM CXIX.

v. 53. "Horror" (E. V.) Literally, "violent heat."

v. 54. "House of my pilgrimage" (E. V.) ; i.e. house of my temporary sojourn.

v. 96. To all completeness I saw a limit :
But thy law is limitless.

v. 147. "Prevent" (E. V.), not "hinder;" but, "go before."

PSALM CXX.

v. 3. Another rendering is :—

"What can the false tongue give thee?
What can it do to thee?"

v. 5. "Mesech," a northern people : "Kedar," a desert tribe : types of foreign and heathen nations.

PSALM CXXII.

v. 3. Jerusalem the builded, as a city compacted together—either well-built (*du hochgebaute stadt*, thou city fair and high) or rebuilt, restored.

v. 4 "Unto the testimony of Israel" (E. V.), is wrong. It is "according to the law in Israel."

PSALM CXXV.

v. 3. "For the rod (sceptre) of unrighteousness shall not rest for ever upon the lot (inheritance) of the righteous." Unrighteous tyrants shall not for ever oppress the holy land.

PSALM CXXVI.

v. 4. It is strange to find a prayer for return in a psalm of praise for the deliverance of Zion. It can only mean, Continue, establish, carry out the gracious work of restoration, that our joy may be full. The figure is from the sudden filling of the dry torrent-beds when the rainy season comes, and the consequent renewal of the land.

PSALM CXXVII.

v. 2. Mrs. Browning's beautiful poem notwithstanding, "He giveth his beloved sleep" cannot stand. It is true: but not the truth intended here. It is, "He gives to his beloved sleeping." Without God you may labour early and late, and with sore travail; it is all vain. With God the reward of labour comes as unexpected, as in a dream, comes as if it were given while his people are asleep.

v. 3. "An heritage of the Lord" (E. V.), *i.e.* bestowed by the Lord.

v. 4. "Children of the youth" are not young children, but children begotten in youth. Compare, "son of his old age," Genesis xxxvii. 3, etc.

PSALM CXXVIII.

v. 3. "Sides" (E. V.) as in *xlvi*. 2. The word seems to denote remoteness; here, therefore, "the innermost parts of the house," which, as it naturally refers not to the vine, but to the wife, is more suitable than "sides."

v. 5. Frequently it matters comparatively little whether the verb be translated as optative or future, as expressing a wish, or confidently anticipating its fulfilment. Here the former is decidedly to be preferred.

PSALM CXXIX.

v. 6. "It groweth up" (E. V.); rather, "is plucked up" or "reaped," which also suits the rest of the passage.

PSALM CXXXI.

v. 2. "Like a weaned child on his mother's bosom]." This fine figure has various turns given to it: but surely there can be little doubt that the idea is of the weaned child lying quietly, without any longing after that which was formerly the object of passionate desire.

PSALM CXXXII.

v. 1. It is not so much the "afflictions" of David that are here intended, as the trouble he gave himself about the worship of God.

v. 6. An obscure verse. Ephratah is Bethlehem, and the forest fields may be those of Lebanon. From Bethlehem to Lebanon, i.e. all over the land, we heard the cry of those going up to the temple. But Ephratah is "the fruitful land" (? Bethshemesh or Shiloh), and Kirjath-jearim is "the town of the woods." Whence by some the verse is taken as alluding to the movements of the ark, for which David desired to build an house.

PSALM CXXXVII.

v. 8. "Who art to be destroyed" (E. V.) Better, "who art destroyed," for Babylon was probably in ruins when this was written, or "their destroyer," which is more appropriate here, and is supported as grammatically correct by eminent authorities.

PSALM CXXXVIII.

v. 2. There is but one way of translating the last clause, "thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name" (E. V.) What the meaning may be it is hard to say. Ewald's "Thou

hast done more in fulfilment of thy word than all former ideas of thee could have led us to expect," is as good as any, but it is not altogether satisfactory.

v. 5. "In the ways of the Lord" (E. V.) Almost all later scholars translate, "*of the ways.*"

PSALM CXXXIX.

vv. 11, 12. A better arrangement is:—

"I say, Surely darkness shall hide me,
And night be the light about me:

But, When darkness comes, it does not darken before thee,
And night shineth as the day."

v. 13. "Possessed," "covered" (E. V.), formed, woven.

vv. 15, 16. The word "substance" (E. V.) represents different words in these verses. In v. 15 it is "my strength," or "my bones;" in v. 16 the word is usually rendered "embryo:" but "clew" (life a ball yet to be unwound) finds favour with great scholars.

"In the lowest parts of the earth" (E. V.) denotes no subterranean limbo or workshop: but is a poetical parallel to "in secret."

"Which in continuance were fashioned" (E. V.) is wrong. The margin, though also wrong, indicates the right way: "my days were determined before one of them was."

v. 17. "How precious" (E. V.) So the word is usually to be understood. That, however, is only a secondary meaning. The primary sense is "to be heavy:" and "difficult" goes with that as easily as "valuable." Both parallelism and the analogy of other places point to the former of these ideas as preferable here. "How difficult! how incomprehensible!" Psalm xl. 5.

v. 20. A difficult verse. "Take (thy name) in vain" (E. V.) can hardly be right; it is rather, "rise up against thee in vain."

PSALM CXL.

v. 2. "Gathered together." (E. V.) The verb is commonly intransitive; but it seems better to translate it transitively here, "they stir up war."

v. 8. "*Lest*" (E. V.) is supplementary. But a governing conjunction cannot well be inserted in that way. The clause is difficult. A good suggestion is that the word (it is a single word in the Hebrew) belongs to the following verse, which would then run, "let them lift up the head round about me," or, "though they lift," etc.

v. 10. "Let coals fall upon them" (E. V.) Properly, according to the present text, it is, "let them (impersonal, as French *on*) hurl coals on them." Hupfeld, by a slight correction (which, however, is purely conjectural), gets, "let him rain upon them."

v. 11. "An evil speaker" (E. V.) Heb., "a tongue-man."

PSALM CXLI.

v. 2. "Set forth" (E. V.) Let it present or establish itself.

vv. 5-7. This passage, besides breaking the course of the psalm, presents, after the opening clauses are passed, exegetical difficulties which may be said to have proved insuperable hitherto. So far all is plain—

"Let the righteous smite me,—a kindness ;

Let him reprove me,—oil for my head."

The next clause is not, "it shall not break my head" (E. V.), but, "my head shall not refuse it." After this all is uncertain. Instead of, "for yet also my prayer shall be in their calamities" (E. V.), we may say, "against their wickedness."

The sixth verse is well given in E. V., whatever the meaning and connection may be.

There is no word answering to "wood" in the original, which is referred by some to ploughing.

PSALM CXLII.

v. 3. First clause appears rather to belong to the preceding verse.

v. 7. "Compass me about ;" usually in a hostile, but here in a good sense : Crowd round congratulating me.

PSALM CXLIIL.

v. 3. "That have been long dead" (E. V.) So generally ; but by some, "the eternal dead."

v. 9. The verb in the last clause is really untranslatable. "To thee I have covered" has no meaning: and the various translations are only attempts more or less ingenious to twist this into something intelligible. The change of the initial letter gives a word common enough in such connection. "I trust in thee," "I flee to thee to hide me" (E. V.), is therefore very good.

PSALM CXLIV.

v. 12. "Corner-stones" (E. V.); apparently pillars in the corners of the walls.

v. 13. "Our streets" (E. V.) This would be inconvenient. It is, "our meadows."

v. 14. "Strong to labour" (E. V.); margin, "laden with flesh." It is parallel to the prayer for increase of flocks, that our herds also may be pregnant.

No breach in our walls; no going out, either for sally or in banishment after capture; no alarm in our streets: a picture of a city in profound peace. It does not require acquaintance with Hebrew to see that this little piece (12-15) is of totally different quality from the rest. It is probably much older.

PSALM CXLVII.

v. 1. Another way of reading this verse is:—

"Praise Yahveh, for he is good;
Sing to our God, for he is lovely.
Becoming is praise."



17



the 1990s, the number of people in the UK with a mental health problem has increased by 50% (Mental Health Foundation 2000).

There is a growing awareness of the need to improve the lives of people with mental health problems. The UK Government has set out a vision for the future of mental health care in the UK (Department of Health 1999). The vision is that people with mental health problems should be able to live their lives in the community, rather than in hospital. This vision is based on the principle of recovery, which is the process of moving from a state of mental health problems to a state of well-being. Recovery is a personal journey, and it is important that people with mental health problems are given the opportunity to participate in decisions about their care.

One of the ways in which the UK Government is working to improve the lives of people with mental health problems is by promoting the recovery approach. The recovery approach is a person-centred approach to mental health care, which focuses on the individual's strengths and resources, rather than on their weaknesses and needs. The recovery approach is based on the principle that people with mental health problems are capable of leading meaningful lives, and that they should be given the opportunity to participate in decisions about their care.

The recovery approach is a relatively new approach to mental health care, and it is still in the early stages of development. However, there is growing evidence to suggest that the recovery approach is effective in helping people with mental health problems to live their lives in the community. The recovery approach is based on the principle of recovery, which is the process of moving from a state of mental health problems to a state of well-being. Recovery is a personal journey, and it is important that people with mental health problems are given the opportunity to participate in decisions about their care.

One of the ways in which the recovery approach is being implemented in the UK is through the use of recovery-oriented services. Recovery-oriented services are services that are designed to help people with mental health problems to live their lives in the community. Recovery-oriented services are based on the principle of recovery, which is the process of moving from a state of mental health problems to a state of well-being. Recovery is a personal journey, and it is important that people with mental health problems are given the opportunity to participate in decisions about their care.

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